

# Students give on local and global scale

ARRON PICKARD  
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Students involved with École secondaire catholique Thériault's Community Care Project give a lot, but they receive much more in return.

Project co-ordinator Maurice Vincent in 2007 Thériault students started visiting other communities throughout the world and doing good deeds for those in need. The project has two focuses, a local and an international scale.

"Jamaica is our country of choice," Vincent said. "Students have spent time working at a boy's home in Mandeville, Jamaica, where they did property work like painting. They were able to interact in a positive way with the boys of that

community. They worked for the boys but, more importantly, they worked with them."

The group also spent time in a slum area of Kingston and helped build two small homes for people with no other

means of shelter.

"Again, the students worked for those in need but they also worked with them, which is what this project is about," Vincent said. "They've visited orphanages, schools and retirement homes. This project gives the students a renewed sense of appreciation of what they have at home."

The group has caught the attention of the Retired Teachers of Ontario, which provided a \$4,000 boost to the students' efforts. The funds come from the RTO's Service to Others Project and is awarded to an organization or group that promotes education, community spirit or humanitarian efforts.

A total of \$100,000 is given out through the project and past recipients have included the Joan Caron Camp, Science Timmins and Timmins and District Hospital.

Organizations are invited to apply for funding by visiting the RTO's website at [www.rto-ero.org](http://www.rto-ero.org).

Funds are handed out once a year. A committee in each district determines which organization or group will receive the award based on their respective merits. Emphasis is put on projects benefiting students and children.



Retired teachers of Ontario member Thérèse Caron, centre right, presents a \$4,000 cheque to the Community Care Project of École secondaire catholique Thériault. The funds were provided through RTO's Service to Others Project, given to an organization or group that promotes education, community spirit and humanitarian efforts.

*Photo Courtesy: The Daily Press - Arron Pickard - June 11/09*

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