

Stockton's Dr. Mary Lou Galantino Takes Daughter, Student to Haitian Clinics

Helping Earthquake Victims at Two Locations

For Immediate Release; with photos

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Galloway Township, NJ – Dr. Mary Lou Galantino, professor of Physical Therapy in the School of Health Sciences at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Sara Pitcher, of Hillsborough, NJ, and a student in the doctor of Physical Therapy program and Dr. Galantino's daughter, Madi Pack, are helping patients at two clinics in Haiti this summer.

The July 21-Aug. 3 trip to two locations on the island covers a lot of ground – literally and figuratively. Healthcare professionals are providing medical services and Madi “will be assisting in Jacmel, facilitating dance performances and yoga with 100 kids over the course of a week,” her mother said.

The project will also include working with physical and occupational therapists, doctors and nurses from various countries, studying traditional healing practices and doing research that will continue when they return home.

Dr. Galantino said she is particularly pleased that Madi, a 13-
“Watching her grow and decide she wants to volunteer in this capacity is wonderful,” said Dr. Galantino.

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-continued from page 1-

“Our family commitment is feeding the homeless in Wilmington, where we live,

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She noted that this was a perfect “laboratory” for doing research on inter-professional education.

“I’m studying the art of inter-professional practice with a cadre of healthcare practitioners from various backgrounds – handling conflicts, navigating cultural and language challenges,” Dr. Galantino said.

“It’s a true cultural immersion through an international clinical experience and is a rich training ground for our Health Sciences students.”

“We will also be exploring traditional Haitian healing practices,” she said. “As coordinator of Holistic Health at Stockton, we aim to understand the cultural practices that lead to perceptions of well-being for individuals and return to share our experiences and observations in a respectful way for others to appreciate.”

Emily Bessemer, another student in the doctor of Physical Therapy program who is from Brick, will be helping with the research on this end, she added. “She was instrumental in doing a lot of the leg work on where we should go and serve,” Dr. Galantino said.

Download Photos Here: [Mary Lou Galantino](#), [Madi Pack](#), [Galantino’s students](#)

Captions for headshots:

Dr, Mary Lou Galantino of The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

Madi Pack, 13, is Dr. Galantino’s daughter. She gave up going to summer camp to work with Haitian children.

Caption for students:

Doctor of Physical Therapy student Emily Bessemer of Brick, left, helped plan the trip and is providing research, while DPT student Sara Pitcher of Hillsborough is working with Stockton’s Dr. Mary Lou Galantino at two Haitian clinics this summer.

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