

East Jamaica Conference
Of Seventh-day Adventists
ADRA COORDINATOR

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November 19, 2024.

TO ALL: PASTORS, ELDERS, CHURCH BOARDS, AND MEMBERS.

RE: ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY (ADRA)

ADRA versus Adventist Community Services (ACS)

Keys to Adventist Community Services advises, “even though problems such as poverty, disease, disaster, and other social problems are multiplying around the world, there is a positive side to this challenge. These ever-present problems present unlimited opportunities for God’s people to experience the joy of service in providing compassionate care that alleviates and prevents suffering.” These issues and more make ministries like ADRA and Adventist Community Services (ACS) more valuable and necessary.

Is there a difference between Adventist Community Services (ACS) and Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)?

ACS is the community outreach ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist. It operates at the local church level, motivating, training, and mobilizing members to serve their immediate communities and the environs.

ADRA is the official humanitarian agency of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It operates globally to provide international relief and development. ADRA has a separate administrative, financial, and program management structure from the church.

However, both ACS and ADRA:

- Share the same mission to serve communities in Christ’s name without discrimination.
- Cooperate with each other and other organizations to fulfill their goals.
- Operate based on traditional Christian values of human dignity and potential.

In summary, ACS focuses on local community service through the local church, while ADRA Jamaica focuses on humanitarian work on the national level. Nevertheless, ACS and ADRA collaborate and share the same core values and mission.

Thank you for taking this six (6) weeks journey with me as I shared information and related facts about the Adventist Development and Relief Agency. If you have missed any of the other five consult the previous issues of the East Jamaica Conference Communication Advisory.

Let us all do our best to promote and support ADRA.

Yours in the Master’s Hand,

Sheldon Schooler, Pastor