



Orlando

Jamaica

C & J Ginseng

Profile

My name is Orlando, I'm from Kingston, Jamaica. That's the capital of Jamaica. I live in a community that is said to be volatile. It is stereotyped and stigmatized because of violence.

I grew up seeing the political war and as a result of that, I chose a positive path, being a peace initiator and violence preventer, being a specialist in that space. I went to school and have a degree in sociology.

My first daughter will be 16 on the third of November. My second daughter will be 14 on the 16th of November. My second son will be seven the 14th of November. We have a lot of birthdays in November and my oldest son turned 21, the 22nd of August.

It's always hard to leave your family to go somewhere to work, especially overseas, but the environment makes it easier to accept working abroad. Knowing that you can still communicate with your family, knowing that you can still be there, maybe not physically, but mentally.

This farm is like my home away from home. I like coming here, I like being here and above all that, I make good money. There are 14 of us and every single worker has their own quarters. Everyone has their own space, it's very comfortable. We have internet so we can speak with our relatives and that closeness is still there. I can help my daughters with their homework. I sit here on a video call with them and I test them with their math.

I love music. There is a Jamaican reggae superstar named Sizzla Kalonji, (Miguel Collins), he and I have partnered over the years to do a lot of positive work in my community. At one point, he even built a music studio, to be used for youth to find a way out of the struggle.

I would love Canadians to know that what we do pushes the economy, what we do provides food on the table for many people. So respect migrant workers. We are respected here at this farm and as a result of that, you work and don't even know that you're working.

I think we have the best farm, actually I don't think, I know! I'm really, really grateful to be, employed here. It has been good. And it has been profitable. That's the number one, it's profitable, because if you don't make any money, it doesn't make sense. If it don't make a dollar, it don't make sense, because the dollar has to change for you to get cents.



**more than a
migrant worker**