

Football Fun for Father Mallaghan Boys!
 Read about the boys' future plans for the sport and university.

"I thought the program was great. I loved the competition, the coaches and the training." "I just love football. I play for my school. I would like to be a football player - like in the league - and be famous, and help my family."

"The program was good. At first I was not interested, but now I am. It brought understanding and peace to my mind".

These are the reflections of three of the nine boys at the Father Mallaghan Home for Boys who took part in the 11th Jason Roberts

Foundation Football Training Program held at the St. George's University Campus. Held from July 10 to 28, the aim of the free 'summer' program was to provide a platform for children to develop their sporting abilities, while engaging in healthy social interaction.

This year, the Foundation hosted the training on the SGU Campus as a means of giving the children an opportunity to see what university life looks like, and hopefully be inspired to pursue further studies. Based on feedback, one can safely say that this was

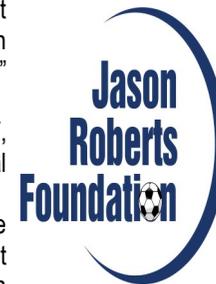


11th Jason Roberts Foundation Football Program held at the St. George's University. Photo by CPA.

achieved among the Father Mallaghan boys. "I plan to go to the SGU or go abroad with my education. I want to study Information Technology or Sports," one shared.

"I plan to pursue IT, Engineering or Social Science," another said.

"I want to be a police officer, so I really want to take my education seriously and be something better in life," yet another informed.



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Soft Skills Training for CPA Staff

As the Child Protection Authority (CPA) continues to work toward ensuring that children in the State of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique are protected from all forms of abuse, it is beginning to place extra emphasis on not just *what* it does but *how* it does it.

On June 29 and July 6, the Authority

hosted one-day workshops on *Conflict Resolution and Interpersonal Skills*, geared at building the in-house capacity to identify the nature of conflicts, as well as develop strategies for their effective management on the personal and organizational levels. A total of forty (40) members of staff benefitted from the training.



CPA Staff at workshop. Photo by CPA.

The Authority believes competency-based training and professional development are key components

that support an effective child protection system, and is of the conviction that building capacity in critical areas will improve the overall operations of the Authority.

Thousands Reached by CPA Digital Campaign!



It's no doubt that the Child Protection Authority considers its 2017 digital carnival campaign a major leap in raising awareness.

This year, the CPA launched a campaign aimed at reminding parents/guardians of their responsibility to the children in their lives during the Carnival season. It took the form of a 37 second-long animated video created by Graphic Artist Roger Joseph. The video, containing child protection tips for the season was aired on local television. Its audio version was also played on radio in the

days leading up to Grenada's most celebrated national event. But the most successful form of distribution came through the CPA's partnership with Digicel, which made the video available to seventy thousand subscribers, via its Flash Advertising and Ad Messenger services.

The 2017 campaign forms part of the Authority's revamped approach to promoting its mandate through

Digicel



preventative initiatives. CPA Director, Yvonne Da Breo, says it is the first of many awareness activities to come - not only for national highpoints like Carnival, but for other seasons of the year.

"Our focus is prevention, and since there is no particular season for child abuse to occur, we are certainly going to have more initiatives like these in the future," the director said.



A 'Beach Lime' with a Purpose

reachwithin 



Caregivers at Beach Retreat. Photo by Reachwithin.

A day of gentle stretching, drumming, meditation and a shared meal was what awaited some of our island's child care providers at the beautiful BBC Beach on September 2.

The event was hosted by the New York/Grenada-based organization, Reachwithin, to simply honour the work of the staff at the Father Home for Boys, the Queen Elizabeth Home, the Belair Children's Home and the Dorothy Hopkins Home. Reachwithin's Youth Programme Coordinator, Jerry Bascombe said the 'beach lime' gave the caregivers the opportunity to share their experiences and garner support from one another. The organization believes caregivers provide the most consistent relationship with children who have experienced abuse or abandonment and deems retreats as highly important to their well-being.

Diaspora donations to FMBH



GIPC Rep. Sandra Pierre prepares to make donation to CPA Director Yvonne Da Breo. Photo by CPA



CPA Director Yvonne Da Breo receives cheque from GIPC Rep. Sandra Pierre. Photo by CPA

The Child Protection Authority's *Father Mallaghan Home for Boys* was the proud recipient of a cheque of \$400 Canadian dollars thanks to the generous donations of the Grenada Independence Planning Committee. GIPC is a combination of twenty-three organizations representing a wide array of Grenadian interests in Toronto, Canada.

The organization comes together annually to plan and celebrate the ob-

servance of Grenada's independence, as well as promote the island and its offerings in Canada. On August 17, the Committee donated roughly \$1,200 Canadian to three institutions – two on the sister isle of Carriacou - as a form of demonstrating its social responsibility, and assisting in national development.

"Part of our initiative in Toronto is that we give back to organizations and community projects in Grenada...giving

locals the opportunity to give back," said Sandra Pierre, Committee Member. Ms. Pierre, who is also the President of the Grenada Association in Toronto (GAT), said one of the things her organization does is look into areas it can help in Grenada, especially in the area of 'lifting up our children and protecting them from a lot of the ills in society'.



Local Child Care Professionals learn from the Best

Noted Child Psychiatrist and core faculty member of the Infant Mental Health Post-Graduate Certificate Program at the University of Massachusetts, Dr.

Alexandra Harrison - the infant, gets for the first time in her career - graced the Isle of Spice to deliver lectures on the growing field of Infant Mental Health. The three-day training, held in September was facilitated by the New York/Grenada-based non-governmental organization Reachwithin in conjunction with St. George's University. It targeted the University's School of Nursing as well as members of the GrenCase Caregiver Programme and the Child Protection Authority.

"The aim was to increase awareness of the concepts of infant-parent mental health,

so that the relationship, starting at birth, between the parent and



Infant Mental Health session at the SGU. Photo by Reachwithin.

mental and social illnesses can be tied to long-term childhood adversity situations," Dr. Honigman said. He also stated that early-life adverse circumstances and environmental stressors such as poverty, domestic violence, substance abuse and

grasp the concept of infant mental health and help mothers to get the most joy and pleasure out of their children – from birth – children will feel safe, secure and contented enough to go out and explore the positive things the world has to offer.

He says the benefits of an enhanced infant-parent relationship can include better performances in school, better degrees of self-regulation, better social interaction, improved social stability, as well as less chronic diseases and less substance depend-



Infant Mental Health Session Group Shot. Photo by Reachwithin.

According to him, there is an ever increasing body of scientific research and literature showing how later outcomes are tied to the early relationship between infant and mother, either positively or negatively.

"Unfortunately, in many cases less than desirable outcomes in terms of chronic physical,

the death or incarceration of a parent can also contribute to ill health when not mediated by safe and responsible culturally respectful care-giving relationships.

But that does not have to be the case for parents and guardians in Grenada.

Dr. Honigman believes that if the attendees

ence – all of which will augur well for the Grenadian society.

"All this takes time. It should happen little by little, but you would be able to measure real improvements for years, because the child is still formative, even in their teen years," Dr. Honigman assured.

COMING SOON TO A COMMUNITY NEAR YOU!



The Child Protection Authority (CPA), in the month of October, with financial support from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), will be launching a new advocacy project dubbed "A.A.C.A - All Against Child Abuse".

A.A.C.A is a psycho-educational project aimed at eradicating

all forms of child abuse and neglect in Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique. It seeks to be a robust education campaign that will use both traditional and non-traditional communication mediums to improve the knowledge-base and parenting skills of the nation's parents and guardians.

A.A.C.A is also aimed at equipping the wider

public to play its significant role in safeguarding our children against abuse.

The A.A.C.A Project will be launched in Child Month, October 2017, and culminate during Child Abuse Prevention Month, April 2018.

Activities will include community outreach sessions, school presentations, education campaigns and other public involve-

ment initiatives.

As the CPA embarks on this campaign, it seeks the support and cooperation of all stakeholders as it strives to raise sufficient awareness to bring about positive changes for all our boys and girls.



CHILD ABUSE

Child Sexual Abuse; The UGLY Truth

The reported cases of child sexual abuse in Grenada has sparked outrage, concern and utter disgust among many social circles across the island, and rightly so. Child sexual abuse has the potential to mar victims for life; hindering them from reaching a level of normalcy and functioning effectively. It is always and inevitably harmful.

THE ACT

While there is no universal definition of child sexual abuse, a central characteristic of this type of abuse is the dominant position of an adult that forces or coerces a child (an individual below the age of 18 years) into sexual activity. It may include fondling a child's genitals, masturbation, oral genital contact, digital penetration, vaginal and anal intercourse. Child sexual abuse is not solely restricted to physical contact but can also include non-contact abuse such as exposure of one's private parts to a child or exposing a child to pornography.

THE TREND

For the year 2017, the number of reported cases of child sexual abuse reaching the Child Protection Authority between the months of January and June totaled 63. For the same period in 2016, the figure reached 82. And in 2015, same period, 67. (These figures may represent only a fraction of the actual child sexual abuse cases that occur on our island, as many often go unreported).

Now, while it is not quite clear whether it is a matter of there being an increase/decrease in incidents or reports, one thing remains clear; child sexual abuse does occur on our island and it is a crime that needs to be urgently uprooted from our society.

THE PERPETRATOR

As disturbing as it is, a child sexual molester can be anyone – a parent, a stepparent, a sibling, a relative, a neighbor, a family friend, a stranger or even a teacher or religious figure. While they do not share the same physical features, some potential characteristics include;

- They can be the most unsuspected people. They are often NOT strangers
- They may directly target children by becoming major parts of both their and their families' lives through church, family, school events etc.
- They may insist on physical contact with a child — even when the child does not want the contact such as: hugging, kissing, tickling, or wrestling.
- They may have “secret” interactions with the child.
- They may go out of their way to appear “helpful” to children and their families by the purchasing of gifts, food, snacks and electronic items etc. to win their trust and silence.



THE COMMON AGES TARGETED

Based on statistics, the age range commonly affected are children between ages 3 and 17. Victims are both male and female.

THE COSTS

While the impact of child sexual abuse is devastating for survivors and families; the effects are also felt by all of us in one way or another. Three of these costs are financial, social and emotional. **Financially**; there are healthcare, criminal justice and child protection expenses that are, for the most part, are borne by the tax payer. **Social Costs** often include behavioural issues such

as promiscuity, teenage pregnancy, the use and abuse of drugs and juvenile delinquency among victims. Additionally, there is the exhaustion of resources like child protection officers, police and healthcare professionals – all of which put a direct and indirect cost strain on society.

In terms of **Emotional Costs**, child sexual abuse has long-lasting devastating effects such as poor self-esteem, depression, guilt, eating and sleeping disorders, anger, anxiety, phobias, self-destructive behaviours, suicidal thoughts, difficulties with trust and intimacy, a sense of powerlessness and a vulnerability for re-victimization.

The elimination of child sexual abuse - and all forms of child abuse, for that matter – truly requires a multi-sectoral approach; where deliberate actions must be taken among various stakeholder groups to jointly achieve the favourable outcomes we desire for our children.

Government, civil society, the private sector –

**We ALL have a role to play!
Let's ALL stand up against this social scourge!!!**

At the Child Protection Authority, protecting the Nation's children is paramount as we champion for "All Against Child Abuse".

Government Steps Up War on Child Abuse

The Grenada Cabinet has approved the appointment of a National Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Sub-Committee to tackle an issue which is being described as a national problem. The committee comprises Public and Private Sector personnel. Social Development Minister Hon. Delma Thomas says the Committee is working feverishly to implement its work plan and has made several recommendations on the way forward. Although the Committee's work plan will not be implemented before 2018, Minister Thomas says the public will not be left uninformed and that month to month updates will be given.

Source: Government Information Service.

Men March Against Child Sexual Abuse

The upsurge in reported incidents of Child Sexual Abuse has left Grenadians soliciting answers from the authorities and demanding stiffer penalties for sexual crimes. Government has also expressed concern in the ever growing occurrences of sexual crimes. It says although more reporting is being done, one reported case is still too many and is slowly destroying the peace and tranquility which people, locally and otherwise are used to.

The government has since decided to heighten its sensitization efforts to send a strong message to perpetrators

This said message was echoed through the streets of St. Georges on September 15, in an

The initiative was spearheaded by the Ministry of Social Development & Housing and supported by its Social Partners including Non-Governmental Organizations, the Royal Grenada Police Force and members of the media.

This initiative transcended political and social strata, as people from different organizations were seen in red, adding their feet and voices against the issue.

Source: Ministry of Social Development.



Men's "END IT NOW" March . Photos by Ministry of Social Development



"ENOUGH IS ENOUGH" and we need to "STOP IT NOW".



initiative dubbed: "MEN MARCH AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE".

The Public Speaks!

Reaching out to the wider public is part of the new direction the CPA is taking to ensure that our children live and grow in safe and secure environments. In July 2017, the Authority launched its very first Public Relations Department aimed at promoting the organization’s mandate through public awareness, education campaigns and collaboration with stakeholders. The Department recently took to the parish of St. Andrew to share this vision with random residents and here’s what they had to say:



“I think it’s a very good initiative, which I would like to applaud, because in ending violence against children, whether its sexual or whatever form of abuse, it takes a societal approach. With the CPA on the ground you will be trying to build a relationship with the communities where they will feel safe to share information with you.”



“I welcome the initiative, but it must be an ongoing process, otherwise it would defeat the purpose. Use the print , electronic and social media to educate the people on the do’s and don’ts as it relates to the children.”

“I can say it’s a good thing. You and I need to be concerned about the kids. The adults need to have respect for themselves... To older folks who molest children, I say its just wrong, rude and unpleasant.”



“It’s good to make people aware. Make people know that child abuse is not good. That way it will get into people’s heads. Put it out there that there is no tolerance for it. I find people should try to make the place a little safer and be more involved.”



THANKS FOR THE FEEDBACK!

Thinking about fostering a child?

The Child Protection Authority provides its carers with:

- Regular support of an allocated social worker
- Out of Hours social work support
- Regular training opportunities
- Allowance paid to assist with child care
- Foster Carers Forum

CONTACT US:

Call 435 -0293

E-mail: Info@cpagrenada.org

Make a difference in a child’s life today!



CPA Kids Corner



Dear Children,
did you know that
there is a law that exists in
Grenada just to keep YOU safe?

YES! It's called The Child Protection and Adoption Act, and it was created in 2010 to ensure that YOU are cared for and protected from danger.

This law has also put in place an organization called The Child Protection Authority, or CPA, that is charged with the responsibility of leading in all matters related to your safety and security, like; promoting your well-being and ensuring that you have a safe place to live and grow.



At the CPA we want you to know that:

YOU are special!
YOU have rights!
NO ONE has the right to hurt you!
We are here to help **YOU!**





Enjoy these Fun Activities!

Spot
Five
Differences



Help Mary find her way home



COLOUR ME!



Established 2010

SOME 'LIGHT' HUMOUR

How many Social Workers
does it take to change a
lightbulb?



One. But the lightbulb has
to WANT to change!

WORD SEARCH!

Find the following words. They are your right a child!

- CARE
- CLOTHING
- DEVELOPMENT
- EDUCATION
- EQUALITY
- FOOD
- LOVE
- NAME
- NATIONALITY
- PLAY
- PROTECTION
- SAFETY
- UNDERSTANDING

G V L M I T P C J D C V N Y
 O N Y T I L A N O I T A N O T
 F G I P C B J Y Y E X T E I I
 E O N D E R A C T N N M B T L
 O V O I N D P G O E A D E A A
 P M O D H A K I M N F B E C U
 C I W L C T T P T Q R A U U Q
 M F T I E C O S W I D Z S D E
 S H T S E L Z L R D N X H E V
 Y H M T E O C Y C E H Y U Y U
 F K O V C B J G V J D C J A U
 S R E J R V A P P F Q N X L V
 P D M E E H J Y X M Y Z U P V
 Z C Y B D F X M F F M G N Q H
 Q A G N E B N V W I W O W H O

CARE ENOUGH TO REPORT IT!

As the institution responsible for protecting children, and responding to cases of abuse affecting them, we often witness, firsthand, the dire physical, emotional and psychological consequences that result from these gruesome acts.

OUR CRY IF FOR THE ABUSE TO STOP!

Child abuse does not only affect one family or community, but has wider implications for our nation as a whole.

OUR SOCIETY CAN'T CONTINUE LIKE THIS!

If we truly desire our children to live and grow in safe and secure environments, we must all commit to stamping out all forms of child abuse and neglect.

If you suspect cases of child abuse or neglect, we encourage you to report them to the

Child Protection Authority.

Consider it your social responsibility.

PLEASE CARE ENOUGH TO REPORT!



Call the Child Abuse Hotline at 677, or our numbers 440-6980 / 435-0293 / 533-6990, if you suspect that a child has been harmed or is at risk of being harmed by abuse or neglect. Or if you believe a child is in immediate danger of harm, call 911 first.

Your critical, yet confidential, call will not only make sure the child is safe, but also help provide the child's family the services they need to provide a safe, loving and nurturing home.

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO PLAY YOUR PART!

We look forward to your wholehearted support as we join forces to eradicate this social scourge that, with every occurrence, endangers the beautiful children of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique.



CHILD ABUSE



CONTACT US CHILD PROTECTION AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 1962, Scott Street (Head office), St. George's, Grenada
Telephone: 440-6980. Fax: 435-0767
Offices at: Gladstone Road, Grenville & Carriacou
Telephone: 435-0293, 435-3396, 443-9376, 435-2696, 415-1556. Fax: 435-0766
Hotline 677, **Emergency 533-6990** E-Mail: info@cpagrenada.org
Facebook: Child Protection Authority Grenada

