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**Bel Air Home for Children & Adolescents Inc.**

**Annual Report**

2013-2014

#

#  Introduction

# The Bel Air Home for Children and Adolescents Inc. has been established since 1997. Its main objective is to provide a safe, caring, loving and protected environment for children and young people deprived of their natural family setting. It presently caters for children from 0 -18 years. The Child Protection Authority is the Governing Body of the Home. The authority provides for the Protection of Children in Grenada under a legal framework.

# This is the sixteenth annual report of the company published every year for its many contributors and members. The appended audited financial statements for 2013-2014 form an integral part of this report.

# 2.0 The Company

At the last annual meeting in November 2013, there were

eight ordinary members of the Company including five

directors listed below.

The officers and Directors were re-elected in November 2013 until the next annual meeting. The officers are:-

President : Ms. Claudia Alexis

Vice-President: Mrs. Lauren E. Grey-Beliaeff M.B.E.

Treasurer: Mrs. Merle Byer

 Secretary: Mrs. Lisa Charles

 Directors: Sis. Francis Nelson

 Sister Francis-Nelson is appointed by the St. George’s University.

The other members are:

Mrs. Marina Williams-Johnson

 Mrs. Carlana Charles-Young

 Mr. Tim Byam

 **3.0 Staff**

 The staff at the Home consists of a Management team which includes the Manager, Assistant Manager- Educational Needs Co-ordinator, Home Co-ordinator and five supervisors. There are also twelve caregivers who are rotated on a twenty-four hour shift basis, and one administrative assistant.

 **3.1** **Training**

 In June 2014, Reach Grenada in conjunction with St. George’s University and WINDREF, held a two day workshop for caregivers on Early Child Development. Special thanks to Reach Grenada for sponsoring eleven members of staff to attend this workshop.

 **4.0 Residents**

On 30th June 2014 there were 25 children resident at Bel Air Home, 12 in the Nursery and 13 adolescent girls. During the year, there were 6 admissions and 4 discharges. The Nursery continues to operate at full capacity.

 Our school age residents continue to show improvement in their academic studies. One of the adolescent girls who sat the CPEA exams was successful and secured a placement to attend the J.W. Fletcher Catholic Secondary School. This will bring the number of girls attending secondary schools to four.

 The toddlers continue to go to playschool at the Home to develop skills to prepare them for regular school.

Presently there are eleven (11) in primary school and one (1) in pre-primary. Congratulations to the successful children and particularly to Ms. Alison Greene – Education Needs Co-ordinator, staff, and community volunteers who assisted with their studies and homework.

**5.0 Finance**

The audited financial statements for the year July 1st 2013 to June 30th 2014 are attached to this report. Special thanks to Mr. Henry Joseph of Pannell Kerr Foster and his staff for continuing to undertake this task on an honorary basis.

It is heartening to note that the home was able to operate and manage its finances without much liquidity problems in the year and well within its budget. The Home experienced a decline in its receipts as donations from businesses and organizations were much lower than the previous year due in part to the decline in economic activity on the island. Expenses were slightly lower than the same period.

At the end of the period the excess of receipts over expenditure was EC18184.00 as compared to EC38,269.00 for the previous year.

**Appreciation**

The Directors express gratitude to the Trustees of St. George’s University for their continued generous contribution which amounted to EC$144,755.00 in the period, paid on a monthly basis towards the running costs of the Home.

The Board also acknowledges the Government of Grenada’s subvention of EC$403,992.00 received during the period under review, and sincerely thank the Government for its continued contribution to the Home.

The Friends of Bel Air (UK) continued its support during the year. Its financial contribution amounted to $38,360. from Simon and Elizabeth Batey towards the purchase of swings and other play equipment for the Home. We sincerely thank the Bateys for their contribution.

Through this partnership there are many volunteer sponsors of children and visitors who visit the Home and assist with the playground and other areas of need.

We will again wish to place on record our thanks and appreciation to the sponsors of the children and all other supporters and donors in the UK for their continued support and contributions.

Grenlec over the years has been one of the Home’s main local contributor. Within the last few years its annual contribution towards the upkeep of the Home was $18,000. During this year the extension of the Nursery building to accommodate separate sleeping facilities for the children was completed at a cost of $114, 291.67. Grenlec also contributed $43,261.10 towards repairs to the roof and other sections of the building. We thank Grenlec for continuing to make contributions to the Home.

We also thank the Chairman of Grenada Electricity Services Ltd. for his continuing financial contribution and interest in the Home.

To all other overseas contributors we thank you for your support and contributions.

The Directors also thank the members of the local community and business houses for their support provided during the period, both financially and in kind.

**7.0 Professional Services**

The Directors are very grateful to Dr. Beverly Nelson, Dr. Jennifer Isaac, Dr. Lutz Amechi, Dr. Byron Calliste, Dr. Joseph, and CHORES for their medical services provided free of charge.

**8. 0 Volunteers**

We continue to have volunteers especially from the St. George’s University Students’ body. These volunteers assist the children with homework and recreational activities.

Reach Grenada has partnered with the Home during the year in coordinating children’s yoga. We are grateful for their support and look forward to the continuing partnership.

**Future Outlook**

Bel Air Home with its limited funds will continue to make the best choices in managing its resources to enable it to maximize benefits for the children.

It is the intention that during the coming year more training programmes will be developed to assist staff to develop the necessary skills to continue working with the children.

The Transition Programme will also continue with sessions in sewing, cooking, craft and life skills to prepare the older girls for life outside of Bel Air.

We value all contributions whether in cash or kind as we continue in our pursuit of excellence.

Our best wishes are extended to all for 2015.

