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

**Annual Report**

2019-2020

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# Introduction

# The Board of Directors is pleased to present the annual report for the Belair Home for Children & Adolescents Inc. for the period July 2019 to June 2020. A year of mixed experiences as we were faced with the many challenges of covid 19 in the second half of the year. The Board, management and staff however worked together to ensure the safety of the residents and themselves during the period of great uncertainty and hardships. We were also supported by many persons in the community who provided much needed financial and support such as food and other supplies.

# 2.0 The Company

At the last annual meeting held in February 2020, there were

eight ordinary members of the Company including five

directors listed below.

The officers and Directors were re-elected in February 2020

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

Director: Mrs. Althea McPhail- St. George’s University Representative

Mrs. Althea Mc Phail was appointed by the St. George’s University in December 2019, to replace Sis. Francis Nelson

The other members are:

Mrs. Elise Evans

Mr. Tim Byam

Ms. Kara Archibald

All Directors and members give of their time and effort

to the Home on a voluntary basis.

**3.0 Staff**

The staff at the Home consists of a Management team which includes the Manager, Assistant Manager- Educational Needs Co-ordinator, an Administrative Assistant/Home Co-ordinator. Four new supervisors were appointed from the general caregivers during the year to ensure that each shift is well managed and co-ordinated. New staff were not recruited during the year due to the ongoing pandemic. Many members however worked long hours and remained at the Home for many days during the lockdown periods. They were complimented for their commitment as they worked with the children who were home schooled for very long periods.

The Board of Directors continues to appreciate all the staff members of the Home.

**4.0 Residents**

On 30th June 2020 there were twenty-three children, resident at Bel Air Home: Twelve in the Nursery and eleven adolescent girls. There were fifteen admissions and thirteen discharges during the year.

Our school age residents continue to show improvement in their academic studies. Four of the adolescent girls attend secondary schools. The Principals of both Primary and Secondary schools commended the staff at the Home for the progress observed in the children with their online teaching. Many of the children were exposed to individual home schooling during the period.

We applaud the efforts of staff, especially Ms. Alison Greene – Education Needs Co-ordinator; the part -time teacher, and community volunteers who assisted the children prior to the covid 19 pandemic, including the Danish students who were in Grenada at the time of the lockdown.

**5.0 Finance**

The audited financial statements for the year July 1st 2019 to June 30th 2020 are attached to this report. Special thanks to Mr. Henry Joseph of Pannell Kerr Foster and his staff for continuing to provide this service on a voluntary basis.

The results of the financial situation during the period was favourable as receipts were higher than expenditure. This was mainly due to the restoration of Grenlec’s contribution which was withheld pending the court’s decision. The ruling was in the company’s favour.

**6.0 Appreciation**

We sincerely thank Grenlec for receipt of two years annual contributions which amounted to $36,000.00.

The St. George’s University continued its monthly financial contribution towards the running costs of the Home. This amounted to EC$133,620.00 for the period. The Home is deeply grateful to the Trustees of the University for its continued support.

It is also very important that we thank the Government of Grenada through the Child Protection Authority for its continued contribution, which makes it possible for Bel Air Home to keep its doors open to the nation’s children entrusted to its care. The Government’s subvention was EC$403,992.00 during the period under review.

Simon and Elizabeth Batey, through The Friends of Bel Air (UK) contributed $17,049.00 towards the replacement of the closets for the adolescent girls. We thank them for their continued support and contributions.

The Chairman of Grenada Electricity Services Ltd. has personally continued to make financial contributions and to take an interest in the Home, for which we express our gratitude to him.

There were also donations of food, clothing, household and other valuable items from local and overseas donors which went a long way in reducing the expenses during the year.

Visitors who visit the Home also assisted with other areas of need.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all supporters and donors in the UK, U.S.A and Canada for their support and contributions.

The Bel Air Home thanks the members of the local business community and individuals for the support provided during the period, both financially and in kind. Special mention is made of NAWASA, which continues to give a discount on the water consumption of the Home. Jonas Browne and Hubbard G’da Ltd. and Real Value Supermarket for their ongoing supportive contributions towards food and other supermarket items.

**7.0 Professional Services**

The Home is very grateful to Dr. Beverly Nelson, Dr. Jennifer Isaac, Dr. Lutz Amechi, Dr. Joseph, and CHORES for medical services provided free of charge.

**8.0 Volunteers**

Volunteers continue to be associated with the Home, many of them are from the St. George’s University Students’ body.

These volunteers assist the children with homework, recreational activities and general care.

The Danish students also make very meaningful contributions towards the children’s welfare while they are on assignment here in Grenada. We thank them for all that they do for the children. We thank the administrators of UCC department of Social Education-Denmark for deciding to include Grenada as a part of their programme. The children have benefitted a great deal from their investment of time and care.

The onset of covid 19 adversely affected the volunteer programmes however we look forward to these partnerships continuing in the not too distant future.

**8.1** **Future Outlook**

Although the pandemic is still present in the world Bel Air Home hopes to use the experiences gained to look forward to a future with an open mind to continue to care for the children in a safe and positive environment.

We value all contributions, whether in cash or kind, your support is appreciated and look forward to a future that will uplift the lives of all the children entrusted to our care.

Our very best of wishes are extended to everyone for 2021.