

Drippings

The Newsletter of The White Water Citizens' Association

March 2004

Volume 2, Issue 4

A BIG THANK YOU

Dear Citizens,

CHRISTMAS TREAT

We the members of the Executive and Planning Committees of the Citizens' Association would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to residents of the Community who participated in our Christmas Treat, whether through contributions in cash, kind or giving of time.

JERK FRIDAY

These events were a great success and could not have been possible without your assistance and support and for this we are thankful.

We hope that the cooperation and spirit of togetherness which was displayed will continue as long as we are residents of White Water Meadows. May our children and their children learn from the example of togetherness which we have set so that peace, unity and harmony may reign within our community.

May you all continue to have a prosperous, peaceful and productive new year.

The Planning Committee of the White Water Meadows Citizens' Association

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMME

The Planning Committee is embarking on a community outreach programme for children living with HIV/AIDS at the Dare to Care Center a

part of the Mustard Seed Community in Spanish Town, St Catherine during May, CHILD'S MONTH.

Contact was made with the center and the following response was received:

Mustard Seed Communities
Dare to Care
Home for children living with HIV/
AIDS

Administrator: Donna Reynolds

I. A bit about who we are

Mustard Seed Communities is a catholic, charitable organization that has served abandoned handicap children and pregnant teenage mothers for over 25 years. It is, indeed, a very well established and recognized entity in Jamaica. Our HIV/AIDS children's home Dare to Care, is just over three years old and cares for 23 children, who have been abandoned by their families or orphaned by parents who have died from AIDS.

In Dare to Care's short existence, we have been caring for 30 children, ages range from 1 - 13 years. Of the thirty children seven (7) have died. With the aim of obtaining a better understanding of this fatal disease so as to provide worthwhile and sufficient care for our children, we have worked as closely as possible with the relevant state bodies that have been made available to us in our country.

All of our children have tested positive for HIV. Most of our cases reveal either one or both of the birth parents carrying the disease, should we be fortunate enough to have such records. Where there are no records on file, the child is tested and our home is contacted, usually by the state, when the case is one of abandonment..

Editor's Note

Information you might

Executive—WWMCA

- President— Winston Chin
Lot 502 Tel: 699-7010
- 1st VP -Andrew Holmes
Lot 520 Tel: 699—7006
- 2nd VP—Delrose Holgate
Lot 11
- Treasurer—Ernest Campbell
Lot 9—Tel: 699-7068
- Asst Treasurer—Collette
McIntosh Tel: 699-4058
- Secretary—Fiona Ferron
Lot 550
- Asst Secretary—Karlene Simpson
Lot 512
- PRO—Deniese Sealey
Lot 92—Tel: 699-6996
- Asst PRO—Angella Williams
Lot 97 - Tel: 699 7471

UPCOMING EVENTS!!!!

- ♦ WHITE WATER MEADOWS FAMILY FUN DAY PROPOSED DATE , MAY 30, 2004
- ♦ Community Outreach Programme at the Dare to Care Center, Spanish Town

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II. A few points about AIDS in Jamaica

Generally, like most other Third World countries, AIDS transmission is one the rise, which speaks to an extremely low awareness and lack of public education. The Ministry of Health recently launched a website (www.nacjamaica.com), through a newly established facet of that Ministry that has been charged with undertaking efforts to promote AIDS awareness. The majority of our working class population is online only while at the work place while those who comprise the lower socio-economic franchise do not even know hoe to use a computers.

In that light, our aim is to keep our children alive, make room for more and to continue to assist in saving lives. This naturally, by course of progression, will provide the pubic with seminal information regarding the disease.

In addition to the supply of Anti-retroviral drugs to prolong the lives of the children, the medical condition of the children has to be monitored once they are placed on the drugs. It is required that a CD4/CD8 test be done twice yearly at a cost of \$J6000 per child. This is an alternative or an addition to a viral load test that cost US\$252 plus J\$1800. To date, we have not been able to do any viral load testing because of the tremendous cost involved. However, we have been fortunate to get sponsorship from generous individuals for CD4/CD8 testing and so we have a fairly good idea of the medical condition of our children. Unfortunately, most of the children's condition has deteriorated over time and if they are not placed on drugs in the very near future, it would only be a matter of time before we lose our children to AIDS. Providing anti-retroviral drugs for our children is our greatest challenge and in this regard we need all the help that we can get.

III. The children's current food and drug diet

Currently, we feed the children a regular diet of meat, vegetables, various ground and other starches, supplemented by a series of vitamins. We try to keep them away from milky products, as they tend to induce diarrhea. For pain and opportunistic infections (pneumonia, lung infection, thrush, meningitis, etc) which tend to arise at a constant, we administer power or liquid forms of the following drugs: Augmentin, Amoxil, Flagcyl, Klaricid, Nizoral (Cream and Shampoo), Daktarin (miconazol) Gel, Bactrim, emulsifying ointments (usually prescribed by our doctor to alleviate itching and other discomfort brought on by lesions) and a variety of OTC cough/cold medicines

IV. The children's current medical care

Doctors at the Bustamante Hospital for Children and the University Hospital in Kingston, Jamaica, follow the children. The helps us with blood work and 'check up' of the children. Currently fifteen of our twenty-three children are on Anti-retroviral drug.

We have see the dramatic improvement in the health conditions of those children on AIDS medication and it is our hope to be able to place all twenty-three children on these drugs so that they too can be given a fair chance at a longer life. The government does not subsidize antiretroviral drugs and so Dare to Care has to bear he full cost of these very expensive drugs. The estimated cost of the cocktail therapy per child per month is J\$10,000. Based on this

figure it would cost us approximately \$J2.76 million per year for the supply of anti-retroviral drugs for all twenty three children

V. Current needs

Currently we have eight (8) caregivers that are trained practical nurses: they received further training from the Center for HIV/AIDS Research, Education and Services (CHARES), in caring fro children with HIV/AIDS. However, with the rapid development in HIV/AIDS worldwide, there is a great need for ongoing training of our caregivers so as to provide the best care possible for our children.

Some other immediate needs are: Name of Drugs, # of Units, quantity in each unit, expiry dates, Type (liquid, powder, tablet etc), strength, value of drug.

ANTI-RETROVIRAL DRUGS

- Retrovir (AZT or ZDV – zidovudine)
- Epivir (Lamivudine or 3TC)
- Combivir (AZT plus 3TC)
- Abacavir (Ziagen)
- Nevirapine (Viramune)
- Videx (DDI)
- Zerit (Stavudine)

Other Drugs (for opportunistic Infections)

- Augmentin (amoxycillin + clavulanate potassium)
- Amoxil (amoxycillin)
- Flagcyl
- Klaricid Paediatric Suspension
- Lamisil
- Nizoral Cream
- Nizoral Shampoo
- Nizoral Suspension
- Daktarin (miconazol) Oral Gel
- Cotrimoxazole (Bactrim)
- Medicines for coughs, Cold, Allergies & Fevers
- Children Multi-Vitamins
- Children's Vitamin C

(The above mentioned drugs should be in powder or liquid form as the children have a problem swallowing tablets. Drugs needed for 23 children ages from 1 – 13).



GENERAL

Industrial Blender
 Floor Tiles for new expansion
 Laundry Baskets Clothes pegs
 Industrial Mops Brooms
 Clothing iron
 Window Screening (mosquitoes)
 Cooler (for medication)
 Children's Multivitamins, cold and cough medicines and pain
 relivers

HOME

Single bed sheets Towels
 Wash rags Children video cassettes
 Children audio cassettes Baby clothes and shoes (2 - 13
 years)
 Children's socks Children's underwear
 Story books Colouring books
 Educational toys Computers
 Educational CD-ROMS

FOOD ITEMS

Sugar Rice
 Flour Cornmeal
 Meat Vegetable
 Snacks Fruits
 Hot beverage Mix Cold Beverage Mix
 Bread

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Floor Polish (clear waxed)
 Disinfectant
 Bleach
 Laundry detergent (liquid or powered)
 Bath soap Toothpaste
 Combs Hair Brushes
 Hair Trimmers Skin oils & creams
 Powder Shampoo
 Wipes Pampers (Small, Medium, Large)
 Toilet paper Disposable gloves

KITCHEN

Storing containers Kitchen utensils
 Pots and Pans

Please give your donation to your road monitor
(see page 4)

| |
|---|
| <p>WHITE WATER MEADOWS FAMILY FUN DAY</p> |
|---|

A Family Fun day is being organised for the residents of White Water Meadows on Sunday, May 30, 2004, starting at 12 Noon in the park.

This includes a bake sale. Other snacks and refreshments will also be on sale. Games: Three legged race, lime and spoon - prizes awarded to winners of these events. Bounce-a bout, slide and a Karokee machines for our up coming Divas at a minimal cost will be available. Music will be provided by the Youth.

The proceeds from these activities will be used to purchase educational material for the book club which is expected start immediately on the building of the community center.

Your usual support is therefore being requested.

COMMUNITY SECURITY PROPOSAL

The Security Committee reviewed proposals from several security companies. Interviews were conducted with several representatives of most of the companies. We the members of the Security Committee is recommending, to the Citizens of White Water Meadows, Shalk Security Ltd. A summary of the proposal is listed below.

PACKAGE - A

Burglary Alarm System - Installation - \$8500 + gct inclusive of:
 1DSC 585 4 zone control with key pad
 1 Battery 1 transformer
 2 Magnet contacts 4 Vibration contacts
 2 Adhesives 200 ft 22/2 cable
 200 ft 22/4 cable 200 ft 22/6 cable
 Road Assistance Panic Button

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Monthly monitoring and patrol - \$800 + gct per person FOR EVERY 51 HOUSES
Response base St John's Road
Payment Plan: 50% down and 30 days to pay the difference

PACKAGE B

Community Patrol - \$350 inclusive of gct per quarter (every three months) per person FOR EVERY 300 HOUSES, totaling \$105,000. Patrolling by Shalk Security Ltd.

PACKAGE C

Gate Monitoring - One (1) unarmed security officer twenty-four (24) hour manning of the gate at \$357 per month, \$1072 per quarter (every three months) per person FOR EVERY 300 Houses by Shalk Security Ltd.

NB. Both PACKAGE B & C will cost a total of \$1422.00 per quarter prepaid: \$474.00 per month thereafter so the first payment will be \$1'896.00 and after \$474.00 per month.

To complement the above mentioned proposals additional security measures to be taken have been discussed at the monthly meeting. To hear more about these please contact a member of the Executive or a Road Monitor

Please COMPLETE the form below and return to any of the Executive or Road Monitor by the end of APRIL

MY CHOICE FOR THE SECURITY PROPOSAL IS:

Package A _____ Package B _____

Package B & C _____

NAME _____

LOT No.: _____

CONTACT#: _____

(PLEASE RETURN TO ANDREW HOLMES LOT 520)

We urge you to attend our monthly Association meeting as it is rather tedious and time consuming to explain the issues individually. The measures you put in place today might prevent your regrets of tomorrow.

NOTICES

- ◆ The Citizens' Association meets every 2nd Sunday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at the parking lot.
- ◆ Next General meeting will be on **April 11, 2004**. We would like to see you there.

ROAD MONITORS

| <u>NAMES</u> | <u>LOT NOS.</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Winston Charles | 15 |
| Ann-marie Rose | 24 |
| Andrea Golding | 40 |
| Alex Cameron | 62 |
| Janet Plummer | 76 |
| Len Kirby | 120 |
| Aesha Richards | 246 |
| Malcon Brown | 252 |
| Alva Higgins | 292 |
| Karlene Simpson | 512 |
| Andrew Holmes | 520 |
| D Graham | 537 |
| Fiona Ferron | 550 |
| J Brown | 593 |
| D Pinto | 608 |
| D Cespedes | 623 |
| D Ramsay | 663 |
| Michael Mills | 699 |
| Patrick Anglin | 709 |
| Donna Wint | 716 |
| Pansy Senior | 724 |
| Collette McIntosh | 745 |
| D Scott | 762 |
| K Hurgos | 766 |

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