ST. LUCIA CRISIS CENTRE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HURTS EVERYONE

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WOMEN'S SKILLS COURSE

The course has been completed successfully. An exhibition of the products was held at the Scotia Bank on the William Peter Boulevard. The exhibition was well received.

The persons visiting were impressed with the work and its quality. There was a picture display of the events of the course, a display of some of the materials used. The exhibition was beautifully set up by Options Event and Venue Design. Thanks to our Vice President, Mrs. Dahlia Francois for an expert layout of the display. Saint Lucia Crisis Centre also extends sincerest gratitude to the Scotia Bank for sponsoring the course and hosting and sponsoring the display. The Recognition Ceremony for the participants is scheduled for Tuesday, September 4, 2007 at the Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre. More will be said about this in the September 2007 edition of the newsletter. Congratulations to all the participants for seeing the course to completion. Thanks to all the facilitators and especially to Mr. Sabinus Thomas and his lovely wife Eugenia for their hard work of teaching participants to make all the items on display.

EDUCATIONAL SPONSORSHIP

Its that time of the year again. Children are to school and we have requests for assistance with costs. To date we have requests to assist five (5) students from Sir Arthur Lewis with payment of fees and nineteen (19) students from other schools with transportation and other costs. We have made over 20 referrals to the Poverty Reduction Fund for assistance with books and other school needs We have requested funds from NCF but have not yet received a response.

COUNSELLING

We continue our counselling and to date we have had over 76 new clients for the year. These include couples, most of whom are referred to us by the Family Court, children some of the being on our sponsorship programme and experiencing difficulty and adult victims of childhood abuse who have come in or called for assistance.

VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICES

As part of these services, we have started an Intervention Team consisting of representatives of key agencies working in the area of domestic violence and abuse. The third meeting of this team was held on Friday, August 31, 2007 at our offices. Representatives from Human Services and Women's Support Services were present.

With the reopening of school we hope to embark on intervention in schools once more. We had started with CCSS and have received requests from Sir Ira Simmons and St. Mary's College. We intend to follow up these requests and work with Peer Leaders in those schools.

IAMCO GRANT

The Saint Lucia Crisis Centre has received a small grant form I Am Company (IAMCO) – an agency from the Cayman Islands, committed to alleviating poverty and supporting systems that establish justice for those who cannot protect themselves. IAMCO raises funds from various sources to promote programmes in the Caribbean to aid directly or indirectly in the alleviation of poverty. The Organisation works in partnership with other agencies in the Caribbean to promote education and human development.

The funds awarded to the SLCC is for a project presented to IAMCO to assist with the setting up rape and domestic violence support services in the SLCC. We extend heartfelt appreciation to IAMCO for this support.

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