

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO

Mrs. Pamela Francis, Chief Executive Officer
United Way Trinidad and Tobago



Where did the first half of the year go? Only when we started to prepare the contents of this publication did we realise that 2010 is galloping away while we at the United Way office are moving swiftly from one undertaking to the next. I was reminded of the saying "time flies when you are having fun". I am not so sure that my team would endorse this sentiment entirely, however, they continue to work beyond the call of duty to ensure that we effectively deliver the services that our NGOs depend on.

This edition of the *United Voice* attempts to provide our donors with as much information as possible on our activities over the last six months. UWTT Annual Day of Caring, our Appreciation & Awards Ceremony and the UWTT Employee Campaign Team Workshop were all excellent events that engaged some of our key stakeholders, i.e. the Children's Homes, our Corporate Donor Partners, Campaign Employee Teams and our Volunteers including members of our Volunteer Board of Directors.

Also highlighted in this edition are United Way Haiti Relief efforts. Over the last five months UWTT has focused on mobilising resources for our distressed brothers and sisters in Haiti. We thank all those who contributed to these efforts by way

of financial contributions and gifts in kind. Through your generosity many Haitian families are able to face the rainy season under weatherproof tents and have received water, canned foods and clothing.

A total of TT\$2.5 million in Grants was distributed to several NGOs during the period. Donors will note that while a cross-section of NGOs received grants, UWTT continues to focus and to impact on the issues of family life, youth and education.

I hope the contents of this *United Voice* inspires those who are already contributing to our efforts to continue to do so and encourages others to come forward to add their support.

GIVE • ADVOCATE • VOLUNTEER



THANK YOU



Mr. Conrad Aleong, Chairman – United Way Trinidad & Tobago (left), presents Mr. Ian Welch, Managing Director – PCS Nitrogen Trinidad & UWTT 2009 Campaign Cabinet Chairman with a token of appreciation.
• See page 10 for more awards ceremony.

UWTT GRANTS



Republic Bank Area Manager – Tobago, Ms. Allison Cooper (right) presents a cheque to Ms. Zena Puddy, Executive Director, Tobago Institute of Literacy

Tobago Institute of Literacy provides literacy, language and life skills support to the general public either as individuals or through established organisations. TIL has established 20 classes in several communities throughout Tobago. The organisation's work has also evolved to include consultancy on literacy issues, networking with other community education providers, and setting up of language support/literacy programmes for government agencies.

The grant of \$ 109,500 was given to the Tobago Institute of Literacy in support of the organisation's adult literacy programme.

• See pages 4-7 for detailed list

THERE IS A DESTINY THAT MAKES US BROTHERS: NONE GOES HIS WAY ALONE; ALL THAT WE SEND INTO THE LIVES OF OTHERS COME BACK INTO OUR OWN

EDWIN MARKHAM



HAITI RELIEF EFFORT

On January 12, 2010 one of the most catastrophic earthquakes hit our Caribbean neighbours, Haiti. The 7.0 magnitude earthquake rocked the capital city of Port-au-Prince and left the nation of Haiti totally devastated. An estimated three million people were affected by this earthquake. It was reported that over 300,000 lives were lost and over 1,000,000 persons left homeless. Economic experts project that the destruction in the aftermath of the earthquake has set the country's economic and social development back by many years.

United Way's traditional role is long-term recovery and rebuilding. UWT, however, was compelled to mobilise immediately, partly in response to the numerous calls received from our donor partners and members of the general public, as well as our own emotions given the proximity of Haiti to Trinidad and Tobago. Through a concerted effort, United Way working together with NGOs such as FEEL, St. Vincent de Paul, Salvation Army, Court Shamrock, Eternal Light Community, Bridge of Hope as well as Corporate T&T and the ODPM provided several shipments of relief items including water, canned food items and medical supplies.



United Way CEO Pamela Francis and Linda Ramsumir, Manager NGO & Volunteer Services, flanked by residents with the display of the modular school for the area.

Additionally, financial donations were collected for Haiti relief from United Way Donor Partners and their employees, Corporate T&T and from members of the general public. As a result of this outpouring of support, United Way was able to purchase 820 weatherproof tents. These tents are being used as temporary housing. Through a collaborative effort with the Digicel Foundation Haiti, the tents were distributed to several NGOs which included ADRA, Caritas, The Salvation Army, Save the Children and Medical Association, all of whom continue to work diligently to alleviate some of the distress of the most vulnerable.

United Way CEO Pamela Francis and Linda Ramsumir, Manager NGO

& Volunteer Services, visited Haiti in June and saw several of the camps where the tents are in use. The delegation was hosted by Digicel Foundation Haiti. "This visit absolutely reaffirmed the importance of the work of United Way. Our mobilisation of resources in support of our NGOs is vital. In Haiti there are some 10,000 NGOs from all over the world working under horrendous conditions to assist people whose language they may not even speak," said Mrs. Francis.

While 1,000,000 people are still without homes in Port-au-Prince, there is new life on the streets of its capital city. The UWTT team was heartened

United Way extends gratitude to all donors on behalf of the people of Haiti for the outpouring of support



by the resilience of the people whose hope remains unwavering in light of the devastation that surrounds them. With the commitment of international aid, the Haitian population are hopeful for a new beginning.



UWTT together with a grant received from United Way Worldwide will also be partnering with the Digicel Foundation Haiti for the re-establishment of a primary school that will accommodate 600 pupils as well as serve as a community centre for feeding the elderly. With the already fragile education system being enormously disrupted through loss of infrastructure, staff and students, the re-establishment of a primary school was a natural fit for United Way as education is one of our key areas of focus.

GRANTS

The Adult Literacy Tutors Association (ALTA) is a non-governmental organisation that offers free adult literacy classes throughout Trinidad and Tobago in more than 60 locations nationwide. Formed in 1992, ALTA provides a comprehensive adult literacy programme that is primarily designed to teach literacy to adults 16 and over, but can be used with anyone from age 10 who has difficulty with reading and writing.

ALTA's approach to literacy teaching was pioneered in its free community classes. It combines the structured, sequential approach developed for teaching dyslexics with the learner-centred approach of adult literacy with its emphasis on engaging student interest and using material relevant to the student's life. The aim is to equip students to function independently in the society.

A grant of \$186,000 was given to ALTA in support of the ALTA Programme in South Trinidad. As a result of United Way's commitment in 2009, ALTA was able to provide free literacy classes to 259 adult students in seven venues in South Trinidad.



Mrs. Paula Lucie-Smith, Chief Executive Officer – ALTA (left), receives a cheque from Mrs. Pamela Francis, Chief Executive Officer – United Way Trinidad & Tobago



Ms. Griselle Smith, Coordinating HR Specialist – IBM (left), presents a cheque to Mr. Frank Cooper, President – St. Martin's Welfare Association

The St. Martin Welfare Association is a registered non-governmental organisation that operates a community centre in John John that provides skill training programmes for residents of the area. The organisation founded in 1950 was born out of a need to address some of the issues of the residents, many of whom are described as marginalised. The organisation also operates a pre-school out of the community centre which provides early childhood education for approximately 20 pre-schoolers.

A grant of \$37,420 was given to the St. Martin Welfare Association in support of the Institutional Capacity Building Initiatives of the pre-school.

Families In Action was incorporated as a non-profit non-governmental organisation in 1988. Its mission is to promote healthy family life, balancing emotional, physical, spiritual, social and psychological needs. The organisation provides support for families and individuals in crisis due to alcohol and substance abuse. Parenting programmes are also conducted throughout Trinidad and Tobago as well as workshops and training in peer counselling and peer mediation in schools.

A grant of \$162,000 was given to Families In Action in support of the Confident Parenting and Youth Education Programmes. The Youth Education Programme is designed to help participants develop sound leadership and social skills and to provide support to their peers. It is also a forum for the youth to share their opinions and experiences and learn from each other.



Mr. Justin Urquhart, PSCM Challenger – Wells Delivery bp Trinidad & Tobago LLC – presents a cheque to Mrs. Ivis Gibson, Executive Director – Families In Action



Ms. Penny Gomes, Corporate Communications Manager – Digicel (centre), presents a cheque to Mr. Kyle Dardaine, Director – Companions for the Transfigured Christ, John Paul II Centre on Fatherhood. Members of Digicel Pulse Team look on.

Companions for the Transfigured Christ, John Paul II Centre on Fatherhood is a registered faith-based NGO and social outreach ministry to men. The organisation works tirelessly to help address some of the social, moral and spiritual challenges facing fathers and future fathers. The centre aims to shape a balanced image of fatherhood and encourage a renewal of healthy masculine identity. The

organisation provides the opportunity for men to impact on the lives of young people by sharing their positive fathering experience as mentors or second chance fathers.

A grant of \$ 105,000 was allocated to the Companions for the Transfigured Christ in support of the K.I.D.S. Programme. The K.I.D.S. Programme facilitates the holistic development of children

through educational support, play development and spirituality/values formation. The programme targets kids who are challenged in completing assignments due to problems such as low self-esteem/confidence, lack of parental support/help to complete tasks, etc. The children who are part of the programme come from low to middle income single parent families as well as children’s homes in the immediate vicinity of the centre.



Ms. Joan Bishop, Chief Executive Officer – Creative Parenting for the New Era (left), receives a cheque from Ms. Kamini Singh, Administrative Supervisor – PricewaterhouseCoopers

Creative Parenting for the New Era (CPNE) is a training organisation engaged in the development of a unified and systematic approach to dealing with challenges of family life.

A grant of \$90,000 was given to CPNE in support of the Community Based Empowerment Programme. Through this training programme CPNE will systematically mobilise participants for a concerted response to poor parenting in their communities. Participants will work in teams at community level. CPNE will support them in conducting asset-based needs assessments and co-opt allies in creating appropriate community programming in six regions.

SERVOL is a service organisation engaged in educational and community-based efforts to strengthen the family unit by providing support and education for parents, children, and adolescents in Trinidad and Tobago. The scope of SERVOL's projects involves initiating employment skills, enterprise development, and individual and community empowerment initiatives in disadvantaged urban and rural communities. Specific activities include counselling, teaching, and leadership/ life skills development.

In 2007 United Way committed the sum of \$1,035,000 towards the pilot programme of the Adolescent Development Programme in three secondary schools, i.e. East Mucurapo Secondary School, Mucurapo West Secondary School and Williamsville Secondary School. A total of 346 students benefitted from this programme.

The ADP focuses primarily on: Emotional Awareness which helps students connect with their peers and their feelings; Social Awareness which allows them to work as a team, participate in community activities,



Professor Miguel Carrillo, Executive Director - Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business (left) presents a cheque to Mr. Theo Oliver of SERVOL

prepare for parenting, family life and develop social tolerance; Spirituality which helps them acquire a healthy concept of the supreme being and consequently their own beauty, goodness and worth and to help them with repressed anger; Intellectual Work to help students enhance their listening, reading, writing and computing skills; Creative Work to instill self-confidence and boost self-esteem by getting them to make things, and through public speaking and rap sessions.

In 2010 United Way renewed its commitment to SERVOL in support of the Adolescent Development Programme in targeted secondary schools. A grant of \$1.3 million has been committed for continuation of the programme in the existing three secondary schools and expansion of the programme in four additional secondary schools. The ADP has been modified to include all students of either Forms III or IV of the secondary schools in which the ADP is being run.

MAMATOTO Birth and Resource Centre is a community-based organisation that is committed to establishing an accessible, equitable and innovative childbirth centre. They offer family centred, individualised care to the healthy woman and her family (as she defines it). The organisation offers comprehensive counselling education and support during pregnancy, birth and the postpartum period in a freestanding birth centre.

A grant of \$54,750 was given to MAMATOTO in support of pro bono birthing services to underprivileged women with pre- and post-natal care.



Ms. Manghanita Kempadoo of MAMATOTO Birth and Resource Centre receives a cheque from Mr. Anil Seunath, Sustainability Officer - Atlantic LNG.



Ms. Lorraine Davis, Junior Accountant - Neal and Massy Woodgroup (left), presents a cheque to Ms. Cynthia Samlal, Administrative Assistant - Families In Action

United Way's mandate is to support well-governed non-profit NGOs and CBOs that serve vulnerable citizens. However, UWTT is aware that individuals in crisis, e.g. unexpected medical needs that require financial support for care, destruction of residence by fire, etc. have great difficulty accessing funds. To assist these individuals, UWTT has established the "People in Crisis Fund." The fund is currently administered by Families in Action.

A grant of \$150,000 was placed in the UWTT Crisis Fund at Families In Action to meet the growing demands of these vulnerable individuals.

Caribbean Kids and Families Therapy Organization (CKFTO) provides professional and empathetic therapeutic services to children with special needs. Their services are aimed at children with various developmental and physical issues to help them realise their fullest potential regardless of the family's income or ability to pay. CKFTO specialises in paediatric assessments and direct treatment for children experiencing developmental, physical, cognitive, behavioural, emotional, learning, social and communication challenges.

The grant of \$164,600 was given to CKFTO to equip an occupational therapy gym. Occupational therapy is an essential element of the rehabilitation programme, as it addresses all components of a child's functional status including motor skills, sensory processing and integration, perceptual cognitive skills, social and emotional development and the influence of the task and the environment.



Ms. Kisha Bhaggan, Director – IBWIL, Shivan Bhaggan, General Manager – IBWIL present a cheque to Mrs. Elizabeth Aleong, Chairman – Caribbean Kids and Families Therapy Organization

The Dyslexia Association's mission is to build public awareness on dyslexia and provide training for teachers and parents to assist dyslexic children, as well as the provision of training for dyslexic children with their particular learning disability. The Dyslexia Association is the only provider of remediation for dyslexics in Trinidad.

Over the last four years United Way has supported the Dyslexia Association in its specialist training programmes such as the Visualising and Verbalising Programme, the Lindamood Phoneme Sequencing Programme (LIPS) and Methods for Teaching Dyslexics Programme. As a result of these specialist training programmes, 188 teachers were able to gain additional tools for use in the classroom. The programme provides alternative methods in teaching children who may be identified as dyslexic.

In 2010, United Way renewed its commitment to the Dyslexia Association by way of a grant of \$100,000 in support of LIPS. The grant will be used to train 50



Ms. Elise Hernandez, Communications Coordinator – Unilever Caribbean Limited (left) presents a cheque to Mrs. Cathryn Kelshall of the Dyslexia Association

additional teachers in an innovative method for training phonemic awareness skills in children and adults with language processing disorders.



Ms. Elsa Lara, PR Coordinator – Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited (left), presents a cheque to Ms. Lisa Marie Thomas, Executive Director – the Cotton Tree Foundation

The Cotton Tree Foundation was established in 1993 to facilitate urban rehabilitation and development for its primary communities, St. Ann's, Cascade, Belmont and East Dry River. The organisation spearheads an Early Childhood Care and Education Centre, Family Literacy and Empowerment Programmes, an Information and Technology Centre and an Organic Gardening Programme.

In 2009 United Way sponsored the foundation's "Volunteer Youth Training Programme" which was used to engender a culture of volunteerism in 35 young persons aged 15–21 years. The aim was for participants to understand the Principles of Volunteerism. Additionally, the participants learned new skills, while developing existing personal skills in preparation for employment.

The organisation received a grant of \$72,000 in support of the 2010 programme. It is hoped that this programme will also enrich the society by developing its human resource capital by fostering development in young persons.

United Way Volunteers, who made the day a memorable one



Uncle Don La Foucade, UWTT Board Member, learning the Macarena



United Way Patron Ms. Zalayhar Hassanali

Pass the Parcel...Let's see what's under the wrapping paper



UWTT Board Members from left to right: Mr. Ian Benjamin, Mr. Larry Howai and Mr. Ian Welch help Mr. Sunshine distribute his goodies

A Special Gift of Time

United Way hosted its 2nd annual Day of Caring on April 18, 2010 at the Republic Bank Sports Grounds, Barataria. The United Way Board, Management, Staff and Volunteers from several corporate donor partners came together to give a gift of time to some 450 children from 18 residential children's homes throughout Trinidad and Tobago.

The 100-plus volunteers engaged the children in a fun-filled day, which started off with a refresher course for some of us with the Macarena. With the warm-up session out of the way, a quick round of "Pass the

Parcel" was next on the agenda. Each child excitedly awaited his turn and hoped the music would stop for the opportunity to unwrap the parcel for the hidden surprise.

With a day packed with activities that included track and field events, musical chairs, basketball, cricket, small goal, pony rides, bouncy castle, face painting, puppet and magic shows, as well as good ole fashioned tug of war, the children frolicked with signs of sheer enjoyment painted all over their faces. Oscar Francois Limited was on hand to engage the older participants in personal grooming sessions, with

special grooming packages given to each participant.

Donor partner Label House added a special element with a banner competition with the grand prize of a trip to MovieTowne worth \$1,000 up for grabs. Congratulations go out to the winner, Christ Child Convalescent Home.

As a special bonus Maximus Dan made a guest appearance, to the delight of the children which made for a perfect ending to a wonderful day. The Volunteers committed their participation for the 2011 event and to encourage their colleagues to join in this very fulfilling experience.

DAY OF CARING



Good old-fashioned tug-of-war



Children from the Christ Child Convalescent Home pose with the prize of a cheque for \$1,000

CARNIVAL LIME

De Souza & Friends Carnival Warm Up

Donations Committee Member Ian De Souza together with "De Souza & Friends" and with support from Republic Bank Limited started the year off in fine style with their Carnival Warm Up Fundraiser. Hosted on Carnival Sunday which also happened to be Valentine's Day, the ambience and warmth of Ian's home created the atmosphere that exuded the feelings of love and togetherness. For those who attended it was the best fete for the season as it brought back memories of the good old days of "bring a bottle" fetes with lots of great food and entertainment.

Calypsonian Funny had the crowd in stitches with his usual comical lyrics. Black Stalin also performed to the delight of the crowd, who insisted that he be there again next year. With everyone making bookings for next year's event and planning to bring their side, De Souza & Friends may have to relocate to a larger venue.

The donation of \$14,456.60 raised was greatly appreciated with \$10,000 going to the United Way Community Fund and \$4,456.60 to the United Way Haitian Relief Fund.

See you next year, De Souza & Friends!!!!



De Souza & Friends



Patrons of De Souza & Friends having a good time

AWARDS AND APPRECIATION CEREMONY

We salute all our donors who contributed toward the \$5.6 million raised for Campaign 2009. Mr. Ian Welch, Campaign Cabinet Chairman 2009 and his team including Dennis Evans, Vincent Pereira, Oscar Prieto, Sandra Chin Yuen Kee, Dennise Demming, Camille Salandy, Reyaz Ahamad, Myrnelle Akan, Douglas Camacho, Nicole Crooks, Nicolas Galt, Dale Laughlin, Howard Sabga and Peter Clarke worked assiduously to meet this target.

United Way paid special recognition on May 13, 2010 to the top three companies in the small, medium and large categories for penetration rate, employee donations and total donations.

EXCELLENCE FOR EMPLOYEE PENETRATION 2009: SMALL, MEDIUM AND LARGE



Company Representatives from left to right: Ms. Griselle Smith, Coordinating HR Specialist – IBM World Trade Corporation, Mr. Ricardo Lewis, Treasury & Risk Officer – Atlantic LNG, Mr. Wayne Bernard, General Manager – Rosco Petroavance, Ms. Nicola Thomson, Executive Assistant – Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business, Mr. Dennis Evans, Donations Committee Chairman – United Way, Ms. Donna Moyou, Executive Assistant – 3M Interamerica, Mr. Russell George, General Manager – Hyatt Regency Trinidad Limited, Mrs. Aileen Gurley-Mouttet, Quality and HR Director – Label House Group Limited, Ms. Sonja Johnson, Assistant Vice President – Citi and Mrs. Petrina Roberts, PA Office to the CEO – Trinidad Systems Limited

EXCELLENCE IN TOTAL DONATION 2009: SMALL, MEDIUM AND LARGE



Company Representatives from left to right: Mr. Ricardo Martin, Operations Technician III – PCS Nitrogen Trinidad Limited, Ms. Griselle Smith, Coordinating HR Specialist – IBM World Trade Corporation, Ms. Arlene Bascon-James, Executive Assistant – Trinity Power Limited, Mr. Justin Urquhart PSCM Challenger – Wells Delivery – bp Trinidad

& Tobago LLC, Mr. Conrad Aleong, Chairman – United Way Trinidad & Tobago, Mr. Edward, Brathwaite, QA Engineer – BHP Billiton, Ms. Donna Moyou, Executive Assistant- 3M Interamerica, Ms. Sonja Johnson, Assistant Vice President – Citi & Mr. Moonilal Lalchan, Vice President Finance & Administration – Atlantic LNG

EXCELLENCE FOR EMPLOYEE DONATIONS 2009: SMALL, MEDIUM AND LARGE



Company Representatives from left to right: Mr. Ian Welch, Campaign Cabinet Chairman, Ms. Krysta De Lima, Chief of Staff – BG Trinidad & Tobago, Ms. Julia Gomes, Human Resource Manager – PCS Nitrogen Trinidad, Ms. Arlene Bascon-James, Executive Assistant – Trinity Power Limited, Mr. Edward, Brathwaite, QA Engineer – BHP Billiton, Ms. Donna Moyou, Executive Assistant – 3M Interamerica, Ms. Griselle Smith, Coordinating HR Specialist – IBM World Trade Corporation, Ms. Sonja Johnson, Assistant Vice President – Citi and Mr. Moonilal Lalchan, Vice President Finance and Administration – Atlantic LNG



Mrs. Demming engaging participants of the Employee Campaign Team Workshop



Participants of the Employee Campaign Team Workshop

Employee Campaign Team Workshop



Sr. Debra de Rosia of the Eternal Light Community

April saw the convening of the first Employee Campaign Team Training Session. The workshop focused on sharpening the tools for effective in-house employee Campaign Roll-Outs to stimulate increased Employee Payroll Deductions. The three-hour workshop was facilitated by United Way Board Member Mrs. Dennise Demming of Demming Communications and Donations Committee Member Mrs. Dale Laughlin, Managing Director of the DocuCentre Limited.

The workshop presented an excellent networking opportunity for teams to share their campaign experiences. Several teams took the opportunity to invite the more experienced Campaign chairs to assist them directly in developing their plans and participating in their roll-outs.

Sr. Debra de Rosia of the Eternal Light Community shared the importance of the mobilisation of resources from companies and employees by United Way to support the work of the NGOs.



Mrs Dale Laughlin – Managing Director The DocuCentre Ltd and UWTT Donations Committee member, takes ideas from participants

She outlined some of the challenges faced by charitable organisations in obtaining sustainable funding to keep the operations of the organisation not only afloat but with the capacity to deliver the best possible service to vulnerable citizens.

At the end of the session participants had a renewed perspective and commitment to the cause. The re-education and information provided increased team cohesion and camaraderie as the session hammered home the point that together we all can make a difference.

WE'RE ALL ABOUT GIVING A HELPING HAND. JOIN US!



Media Sales is proud to team up with United Way Trinidad & Tobago. **We will donate \$1** from the sale of selected products to United Way. Join us as we give a helping hand.

UWTT is a non-profit organisation which raises charitable donations from companies and individuals, and channels these funds to the NGOs which deliver critical social services to citizens in need.

