

### **Bank of Bermuda Foundation donates \$885,000 to 11 Local Charities**

**(Hamilton, Bermuda, 26 August 2008)** Eleven local charities that offer long-term benefits to Bermuda, received significant donations totalling \$885,000 from the Bank of Bermuda Foundation during the second quarter of 2008. The charitable organisations chosen to receive grants from the Bank of Bermuda Foundation all have one thing in common: improving the quality of life for the people of Bermuda. Since 1989, the Bank of Bermuda Foundation has donated more than \$43.8 million to charitable Bermuda organisations.

#### **Adult Education School**

The Adult Education School provides an alternative educational programme that meets the needs of adult learners who have not been successful in mainstream education. The school serves on average between 150 and 200 adult learners per year ranging in age from 16 to 40+ years old. Students take a variety of courses including basic Maths and English, the GED, the IC3 in Information Technology or enrol in courses that meet industry needs such as Construction Maths, Tools for Success or Business English. Funds donated will be used to expand and enhance their IT capabilities for instruction.

#### **Bermuda National Gallery**

The Bermuda National Gallery is establishing a comprehensive year-round art education programme, ArtReach, for all school children in Bermuda, with a focus on Primary 5 and 6 students. ArtReach uses exhibitions at the Bermuda National Gallery as a main source for learning by providing teachers with resource packages linking the artwork on exhibition to the school curriculum. The ArtReach lesson plans are incorporated not only into art education but also into history, language, social studies and other disciplines.

The Centre on Philanthropy aims to build an effective and sustainable third sector by advancing knowledge, skills and performance; fostering effective partnerships; creating an united voice for the sector; and supporting and increasing volunteerism. The donation will be used to support the 2009 Third Sector Conference, which brings together a cross section of corporate and individual donors, volunteers and activists. The Centre on Philanthropy will also use the funds to establish a Third Sector Resource Centre to collect, organise and share information on best practises for nonprofits, corporate donors and individual philanthropists.

### **CTY Bermuda**

CTY Bermuda identifies and develops academic excellence in Bermuda's youth across all socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds. By providing special programmes for students with exceptional promise between 8-16 years of age in Maths, Writing, Literature and the Arts, CTY Bermuda aims to help students stretch their talents to ultimately realise their full potential. CTY Bermuda provides an after-school enrichment programme for 175 students, the John Hopkins summer programme for 33 students and a Maths Olympiad where 155 students participated last year. Funds will be used for their General Operating expenses.

### **Habitat for Humanity**

Habitat for Humanity provides assistance to Bermudian families whose income can not maintain and/or purchase affordable housing. By partnering with the Coalition for the Protection of Children, Habitat is able to improve not only the physical living conditions of families in need but, through counselling, is able to help improve the emotional and economic condition of families. Habitat aims to start work on five to six renovation projects with an additional four minor pro-bono projects. Funds will be provided on a matching funds basis and will go towards General Operating costs.

### **Open Airways**

Open Airways offers expert education for effective care of asthma, allergies and other chronic breathing problems such as emphysema. Asthma is the most common chronic disease in Bermuda with approximately 9,000 people diagnosed with asthma including 1 in 5 school age

children. This is one of the highest rates in the world. By working in partnership with other health care providers, Open Airways offers education to health care professionals, individual patients, their family and the community about the prevention, treatment and management of breathing problems. Funds donated will go towards General Operating expenses.

### **National Dance Foundation Bermuda**

The mission of the National Dance Foundation of Bermuda is to help raise the standard of dance excellence in Bermuda by providing world-class training opportunities and scholarships to the Island's talented dancers, teachers and choreographers. Over 3,000 young men and women participate in some type of dance training in Bermuda with approximately 300 dancers, teachers and choreographers and 60 overseas dancers participating in NDFB programmes each year. Funds will be used for General Operating expenses.

### **The Bermuda Olympic Association**

The Bermuda Olympic Association is committed to the development of Bermuda's athletes and to ensuring Bermudians attend the Olympic Games. Donated funds will be used to help support the costs of sending eight local athletes to the Beijing Olympics and ten young athletes to the Commonwealth Youth Games. Both of these world-class sporting events will provide an opportunity for these athletes to be ambassadors for Bermuda and to be positive role models for the next generation of athletes.

### **The Reading Clinic**

The Reading Clinic provides specialised testing and tutoring for up to 80 children and adults with a pattern of dyslexia. Funds donated will help support The Reading Clinic's Early Reading Intervention Pilot Project which was launched with Warwick Academy and Elliot Primary. The programme provides screening three times a year in basic reading skills to Primary 1, 2 and 3 students to identify students who fall below designated benchmarks, provide appropriate interventions and monitor the progress of the at-risk students. The Reading Clinic is hoping to expand the programme into two further schools in September 2008. Ultimately the programme aims to reduce the number of students who fall behind in acquiring basic reading skills.

## **The Salvation Army**

The Salvation Army provides a vital service to the community with its drug addiction and rehabilitation service, homeless shelter, counselling service and a soup kitchen/feeding programme that serves as many as 80 individuals per day. Funds donated will be used to purchase a new mobile canteen to continue and expand their daily feeding programme. The mobile kitchen vehicle comes fully equipped and enables complete meals to be prepared in large quantities. The mobile canteen will also be available for emergency and disaster services.

## **Westmeath Rest & Nursing Care Home**

Westmeath is the largest rest home and nursing facility on the Island with a Residential wing offering independent living, an Intermediate wing offering attendant care and a Nursing wing offering full nursing care. Funds raised will go towards providing the Intermediate wing with a Rear Fire Escape Ramp to meet all the fire code specifications along with building a new sitting area, a kitchen and to make modifications to the walls and doors of the activities rooms and existing bathroom area. Funds provided will be made available on a matching funds basis.

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Notes to Editors:

- Bank of Bermuda Foundation helps charities that support the community and people, preserve our local heritage, culture and environment, and help develop the youth of Bermuda. It also offers several scholarships. Established in 2000, the Foundation incorporates the Centennial Trust, Charitable Trust, and Educational Trust, which were established by Bank of Bermuda to support the community in Bermuda.
- Since 1989, more than \$43.8 million has been donated to charitable Bermudian organisations.
- Applications can be made to Bank of Bermuda Foundation throughout the year on behalf of charitable organisations. Guidelines about what information is needed and who to send it to can be found in the Bank of Bermuda Foundation brochure, which can be picked up from all Bank of Bermuda branches, or by visiting the Bank of Bermuda website at: [www.bankofbermuda.com](http://www.bankofbermuda.com)