WAND helps parents cope with childrearing

TWENTY PARTICIPANTS attended the third in the series of parenting workshops being hosted by WAND in collaboration with the Bay Primary School, which was held at the PomMarine Hotel, Hastings, Christ Church 28-30 January 2003.

Theme of the Workshop was: “Parenting, the Naked Truth: Enlightening, Encouraging and Empowering parents to cope with the everyday challenges of childrearing in the 21st century.”

Special guest presenter, was Education Officer for Guidance and Counselling, Patricia Warner who urged parents to “adopt new attitudes in dealing with their children if they are to deal with the modern day challenges facing them.”

Presentations at the highly interactive three-day workshop, focused on: learning difficulties in children, how parents can help develop language and literacy in the home, drug abuse detection and prevention, raising children in an HIV-positive environment, strategies for effective parenting in the 21st century, and the nutrition of the child in school.

New face at WAND

Educational Psychologist Joan Cuffie has joined the WAND family as Acting Tutor/Coordinator.

She assumed the position in September 2002, following the reassignment of Dr Judith Soares, who has taken up duties as Resident/Tutor/Head (Ag) School of Continuing Studies, Western Jamaica, for the academic year 2002-2003.

Before taking up the position, Joan worked as a temporary lecturer with the School of Education, Cave Hill, UWI.

Congrats Cecelia

Congratulations to Secretary Cecelia Batson who successfully completed her studies in Human Resources Management at the School of Continuing Studies, UWI, and the Barbados Labour College, during 2002.
WAND reaches out to low income communities

... takes flight to Fancy

A WAND DELEGATION comprising Dr. Judith Soares, Ms. Joan Cuffie, and Community Programme Consultant, Chris Aston, flew to Fancy, St. Vincent in July 2003, to meet with the community and get a first-hand look at WAND projects being undertaken there.

The projects include pig rearing, sewing and social training. Under the pig-rearing project, the Fancy Help group, comprising women in the community, have reared pigs based on a cooperative arrangement. They have so far increased their stock from three to 50 pigs, put $300.00 towards the group’s collective savings, and donated $150.00 to the Fancy Preschool.

In the sewing project, the women have made skirts and pants, and plan to make bed linen and cushions for sale in the community.

Under the social training project a workshop on self-esteem was conducted for 20 young persons to prepare them for adulthood and the world of work.

...boosts Early Childhood Education

WAND conducted a 1-day teacher training workshop for two teachers at the La Ponte Preschool (LPP) in St. Lucia, on 26 October 2002.

The workshop, which focused on Early Childhood Education and the development of an improved curriculum, was aimed at helping the participants to improve their knowledge of development issues as they pertain to young children.

Doc Centre upgrade ends soon

WAND CONTINUES to make progress in upgrading the Documentation/Information Centre, in its efforts to create a specialized information center and teaching resource bank on women and development. Although the center continues to receive new books, the exercise in reclassification, indexing and electronic storage of titles of over 3000 books will be completed soon.

Farewell

WAND said farewell to UNIFEM Caribbean Representative, Professor Joycein Massiah who retired recently. WAND thanks UNIFEM for the support given during her tenure.

Women’s vulnerability studies project continues

THE WOMEN’S Vulnerability Studies has moved into the Commonwealth of Dominica, following the successful pilot of Phase I in St. Lucia.

Under Phase II, the model developed in Phase I will be tested and the draft guidelines: “Working with women at risk - Practical guidelines for assessing disaster vulnerabilities and capabilities at the local level,” which was developed, will be reviewed. WAND will undertake the review, based on feedback from emergency and disaster managers, academics and others involved in the field of disaster management to whom the document was circulated.

The Women’s Vulnerability Studies Project began in December 2001 to train and use grassroots women to conduct community-based research, which focus specifically on their vulnerability and resilience to natural and social disasters.

WAND Notes

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Supporting Programmes for Caribbean Transformation