

## **Scotiabank Volunteers to build a house and improve 10 schools among other projects for Labour Day**

[May 21, 2012] Ten schools, one parish library, a family of nine, the St Williams Grant Park and the Ward Theatre environs will receive the full attention of Scotiabank's army of volunteers come National Labour Day, this Wednesday.

An elderly lady in Thornton, St. Elizabeth who lives in a dangerously decrepit house with her eight grandchildren – the youngest being two – will wake up on Thursday morning in a brand new house which will have been built by volunteers from the Scotiabank Junction branch.

With the support of the Shiloh Circuit of Adventist Churches, the technical expertise donated from Maxwell's Construction, labour, and building supplies and cash donated from customers in the area, the team of volunteers from the branch intend to have the house done before sundown.

In continued support of education, especially within the context of Child Month, Scotiabank's branches in Highgate, St Mary; Falmouth, Trelawny; Spanish Town, Old Harbour in St. Catherine; Morant Bay, St. Thomas; Ligunea, Kingston; Port Maria, St. Mary; Lucea Hanover and Westgate, St. James will paint, beautify, clean, fence, landscape or effect repairs to the Cromwell Basic, St. Peters Basic, Spanish Town Primary, Dunrobin Early Childhood Center, Davis Primary School, Morant Bay Basic New Providence Primary, Port Maria Infant, Cousin Cove Basic and the Flankers Primary and Junior High schools.

In support of efforts to beautify and revive downtown, volunteers from the ScotiaCentre branch will support the Kingston and St. Andrew Corporation's projects at the St. Williams Grant Parks and at the outskirts of the Ward Theatre.

In St James, volunteers from the Sam Sharpe, Ironshore and Westgate branches of Scotiabank and of the Scotia Jamaica Life Insurance Company will paint and landscape the St James Parish Library. The library, widely used by a wide cross section of persons is badly in need of this face lift.

"In keeping with our commitment to education as well as supporting the communities in which we work, our branches identified situations where our effort would directly improve the lives and welfare of children. Hence the focus on schools, the parish library and the family with the eight children," Mrs Griffith Irving said.

On National Read Across Jamaica Day, Scotiabank in partnership with the Camara Foundation donated more than 150 computers to 50 schools across the island.

Mrs She further explained that overall the financial value of the equipment required to do the projects was \$1M, but the value of the social benefits of volunteering were valued at a whole lot more.

The ScotiaVolunteers programme was launched in November 2004, and involves a cadre of committed staff members and retirees, who are active in their communities. They respond to national projects including Labour Day; Teachers Day; Scotiabank Kiddy Cricket; Scotiabank Road Safety programme; fund-raising activities to assist charities such as United Way of Jamaica, homes for children and the elderly and support for children needing medical treatment; service clubs and national disasters and emergencies.

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