

HELP & SHELTER
WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER GERMAN COMMITTEE PROJECT
MONTHLY M&E REPORT- APRIL 2009 - Submitted by Danuta Radzik

Community Educators' Monthly Reports -

KANEVILLE

Community Educator: Tessa Greene

Community: Kaneville, East Bank Demerara

Activities: A total of eleven (11) visits were made to this community for the month

of Persons Reached: Total (97) Females (59) Males (38)

of Persons Newly Reached: Total (72) Females (39) Males (33)

of H&S Leaflets Distributed: 69

of Other H&S Handouts - 11

Objectives of Visits:

- Planning and execution of Help & Shelter/WWDPGC 1st anniversary activities in Kaneville
- One-On-One Discussion with Kaneville Residents-1st April
- Conducting awareness sessions with youth attending literary classes and Pentecostal Church, Women's Group
- Attending the Steering Committee Meeting for planning community development
- Holding of literacy classes with Kaneville youth
- Visits to Ministry of Culture, Youth & Sport to solicit information on the process for registering the Kaneville youth group
- Visit to Ministry of Labour, Human Service & Social Security re: logo Competition for Children
- Co-facilitating a two day follow up peer education workshop in the community of Covent Garden

Community/Group & Individual Responses to Visits:

Kaneville 1st Anniversary Activities – 2nd, 3rd April

- The home of the Kaneville resident, who kindly consented for the erection of the community project banner in her yard, was visited and poles for making the frame for the banner left for construction on the 5th April.
- Items for the community based fund raising jumble sale were uplifted from Help & Shelter and other donors transported to Kaneville and priced with the help the community mobiliser.

Kaneville 1st Anniversary Activities – Church Service, March & Erection of Banner-5th April

- The presence of the children from the literacy group and the adults at the church service was heartwarming as everyone joined in to give thanks for the past year successes and to pray for the events and activities in the second year. After the church service members of the congregation led by three (3) children holding the project banner walked through the street chanting "Stop the Violence" to the site

identified for the planting of the banner. The banner was erected in the yard of Ms Riddle whose daughter was murdered by her husband one year ago on April 4th 2008. Everyone who took part in this activity said they enjoyed themselves immensely, even though a heavy downpour of rain soaked everyone while the banner was being put up and continued as persons made their way back home.

Kaneville 1st Anniversary Activities –Bring & Buy Sale- 5th April

- The Bring & Buy sale netted \$15,800 with good support from the community. Requests made for children clothes at the next sale as most of the clothing items were for adult women. Funds made from this activity were used for the other 1st Anniversary activities such as children's outing to the Zoo & Botanical Gardens and prizes for the Spelling Bee Competition. The following fundraiser will focus on materials for training and production of craftwork by the women's group and a token donation for the Church. It was also agreed that some of the monies collected from next fundraiser will go towards the Assemblies of God Church for their building fund for renovations.

Spelling Bee Competition- 7th April

- The community educator, community mobiliser, and six other parents supervised the children and organized the smooth flow of the competition. Children were placed into 4 categories: 4-6 yrs, 7-8 yrs, 9-10 yrs and 11-14yrs. A winner based on the number of points scored was chosen from each category. Tokens were presented to each winner as well as everyone else who participated. In addition the best behaved girl and boy at the competition also received an additional token. Prizes and tokens were purchased from funds raised at the Bring & Buy Sale. Snacks were also provided for participants after the competition.
- Children who participated asked that similar competitions be held, this is being discussed. As expected some of the children were disappointed they did not win in their categories, however, the CE took the opportunity to stress that it is not only about winning but doing your best, having fun and learning and no one is a loser. Parents voiced their appreciation for the work being with the children and volunteered to be more active in the literacy/awareness activities of their children in the future.
- The older girls got together before the competition and planned a similar type of wardrobe for the event- white t-shirts and denim pants or skirts. This show of working together on their own initiative made the adults feel proud. Overall the competition was a success and will hopefully give the parents an opportunity to take pride in their children's progress.

Edutainment-Fun Visit to Botanical Gardens & Zoo- 11th April

- A total of thirty three (33) children and four (4) adults took part in the visit to the Georgetown Botanical Gardens and Zoo. All the children had fun observing the animals, feeding the manatees and flying their kites. A bus was hired to transport the children and supervising adults to and from the location and luckily everyone was able to fit into the one bus. The cost of hiring the bus, food and other refreshments were all paid from the funds raised through the Bring & Buy Sale.

- The CE reported that seeing the children express their enjoyment at this outing was one that will always remain with her because of how much can be done to assist others and how the simple things in life are often overlooked in the hustle and bustle of people's busy lives. In addition it was heartwarming to note the children's responses to several needy and destitute persons who came around as lunch was being served. The older girls took the decision to forgo their lunch so the needy in their midst could have something to eat. They were the ones who served lunch and juice to those in need and also pooled their resources to pay the entrance fee for those children who did not have the money for the entrance fee to the Zoo. The community organizers were very satisfied with the success of this Edu/fun tour and plan to organize many more.

One-On-One Discussion with Kaneville Residents-1st April

- Some of the youth who attended the 1st Peer Educator's workshop in the community of Covent Garden organized and took part in this activity. A total of 3 persons together with the community educator carried out one on one discussions with twenty nine (29) residents, eighteen (18) males and eleven (11) females living in 1st and part of 2nd street of 1st Field, Kaneville. The community educator reported that the youth were confident and showed improvement in the way they discussed the issue of domestic violence. During this outreach activity the CE met two males who disclosed incidents of domestic abuse. One man said that his girlfriend was both emotionally and physically abusive to him. He showed the CE scratches on his face and neck that he said he had received during the last argument he had with his girlfriend. Other information disclosed pointed to an unhealthy relationships with the possibility of the man seriously retaliating and seriously hurting his girlfriend if she continues to hit him. He was advised to call or visit Help & Shelter and seek counselling for himself and his girlfriend. The other incident reported involved a man who disclosed that the mother of his children was both very emotionally and verbally abusive to him, leaving the home for days, stealing money from him and denying him access to one of his children who lives with her. This man wanted to get full custody of his children. The community educator advised him to seek help from the Ministry of Human Services but he claimed that he has visited there on numerous occasions and nothing is being done. He was then advised to call H&S to talk to a counsellor.

Literacy Session-Improving Reading Skills -4th April

- A total of twenty five (25) children, twenty (20) girls and five (5) boys attended this session. The decision was taken by the CM for the literacy sessions to be supervised and taught by the CM and other interested peer educators. It was felt that such a strategy will assist community based persons to become more comfortable and efficient in facilitation. The CM will be asked to take on the responsibility of completing the register and preparing the reports.
- It was noted that the children showed increased confidence in expressing themselves and were not as shy as they initially were.

Literacy Session-Essay Writing- 18th April

- A total of twelve (12) children, ten (10) girls and two (2) boys between the ages of 6-14 attended the session. The CE reported that the children still needed guidance on sentence construction and linking ideas to make their essays flow smoothly. Each child benefited from a one on one individual assessment of their work.

Literacy Session –Grammar – 25th March

- A total of twenty (20) children, thirteen (13) girls and seven (7) boys attended the session. The sessions focused on identifying what are nouns.

Awareness Sessions

Awareness Session-Personal Hygiene- Literacy Class-4th April

- A total of twenty five (25) children, twenty (20) girls and five (5) boys attended this session after their literacy class. The session was facilitated by the CM and another community facilitator/peer educator. The children were asked to say what they thought the words personal and hygiene meant. They were then asked to give their views as to how they could ensure that their personal hygiene stays good. At the end of the session every child present understood what those words meant and what they needed to do to ensure they developed good personal hygiene habits as well as maintaining a clean environment.

Awareness Session- Taking Care of Your Self-Literacy Class- 18th April

- A total of twelve (12) children, ten (10) girls and two (2) boys between the ages of 6-14 attended this awareness session on Taking Care of Yourself after the completion of their literacy class. The children were asked to say how they would respond if their friend/brother/sister was being abused or harassed. Feedback indicated that participation was good and children understood the issue being discussed. Incidents of abuse were related by some of the children including one in which an uncle who was fondling his 7yr old niece was caught in the act by the child's mother. The uncle was put out of the house and has never visited the home again but no police report was made.
- One of the facilitators, Ms James explained that abusers can be of both sexes and boys as well as girls can be abused. All of the children said they would scream if anyone touched them or they would tell someone if any person made any comment or threat of a sexual nature to them. The CE explained that abuse is not only done by strangers but is more often done by people we know including family members. It was stressed that children must not be afraid to talk to someone they trust if they are being sexually abused as sexual abuse must not be kept a secret.

Awareness Session- Rules- Children Attending Literacy Sessions -25th March

- A total of twenty (20) children, thirteen (13) girls and seven (7) boys attended this short awareness session on Rules at the end of their literacy session. The session was facilitated by the CE and CM. The children were asked to define what rules are and give examples of some of the rules they have in their homes and schools. Children were also asked to give their opinions as to why those in authority- parents, guardians, teachers, employers, countries have rules that they wish people to observe. Responses given to reasons why rules are important were – for

protection from danger/harm/bad things (e.g. rape) and to help us to learn to be respectful.

Awareness Session- Entrapment- Pentecostal Church Women's Group- 12th April

- A total of eleven (11) persons, ten (10) females and one (1) male participated in a 2hr and 45 min awareness session on Entrapment. The session looked at reasons why women stay in abusive relationships and a DVD was shown which told the story of a woman in an abusive relationship for twenty years.
- Participants identified a number of reasons why women stay in abusive relationships such as fear of leaving in the face of uncertainty, fear of rejection by family members, fear due to the lack of educations and skills to earn a living, fear for their lives and the lives of their children. Children was given as another major reasons why women stay and some of the concerns expressed were the lack of human and financial resources including adequate housing needed when leaving an abusive relationship when children are also involved.
- Participants were asked to share personal experiences or experiences they knew about of how women become entrapped in domestic abusive relationships. In one story shared, a pastor's wife who because she was ashamed to let persons know what she was enduring at the hands of her 'righteous' husband remained with him until he passed away. Only after his death did she talk about the physical, verbal, sexual and financial abuse she suffered. Some of the persons she eventually told were already aware that something was wrong but they were not aware of the extent of his cruelty to her. Another participant related a story in which an abused woman felt ashamed to go back to the Police for help after she had repeatedly asked for the abuser to be released without being charged on numerous previous occasions. Her relatives also decided not to interfere in the disputes between her and her reputed husband as did other persons since she never heeded their advice. She finally left the relationship after her sister organized for her to leave the country unknown to her partner. This move was prompted by an increase in the partner's violence towards her and threats to kill her. Participants at the end of the session requested that further sessions be scheduled in the future.

Visit to Ministry of Labour, Human Service & Social Security re: logo Competition for Children-April

- The community educator visited the Ministry of Culture, Youth & Sport and uplifted a form for registering youth groups which is to be filed out and returned. She also visited the MLHSSS re Logo Competition for children.

Visits by Residents to Community Mobiliser Seeking Help with Psych-Social Problems-April

- The mobiliser reported that persons are visiting her home to talk about problems they are experiencing. These cases were documented and persons were referred to Help & Shelter for counselling and or given H&S hot line numbers to call for further assistance. The community mobiliser also reported that most of the persons who had been trained at the peer educator workshops were showing little interest in actually coming out to work in the community.

Steering Committee Meeting –19th April

- A total of eight (8) persons including the CE and 3 new persons were present at the meeting. The meeting was briefed on the 1st Anniversary week of activities.
- **Concert/Village Day-** Mr. K. Damon, who was to report back on the participation of the Assembly of God Church in a open air concert to sensitize residents about domestic violence while at the same time entertaining them was absent from the meeting. Ms James suggested that the meeting continue to plan for a village day and concert as suggested by the Help & Shelter project coordinator. All those present agreed that a village day and concert would bring residents out. It was pointed out that the bad condition of the access road would be a deterrent to this activity. Signs were to be put up in neighbouring villages so that more persons can be aware of this activity.
- **Drainage-** suggestions were made that each resident should take the responsibility to clean their own drains. Another suggestion was that there was a need for another koker as only 1 out of the 2 kokers at Grove was presently functioning. Another suggestion was that the NDC needed to dig the surrounding canals so that some of the water can be diverted to Craig. A delegation will visit the NDC to discuss this.
- **Petition-** The CE reported that Ms. Danwantie Singh of Ministry of Education has acknowledged receipt of the petition for the building of a nursery school. A survey has to be carried out by the ministry to:
 - Ascertain whether Kaneville is outside of the 3 mile radius of the closest nursery school in the area
 - Numbers of children who need or will need a nursery school in the future
 - Whether it will be feasible to build a nursery school in the area or have children attend the nearest Sammatta Point Nursery school
 - Extend the Sammatta Point Nursery School to accommodate Kaneville Nursery School age children.

Peer Educators Workshop- 22nd & 23rd April

- **Please see separate report on evaluation of second Peer Educators Workshop held in Covent Garden**

KANEVILLE COMMUNITY EDUCATOR'S WORK PLAN- April 2009

Date	Activity	Time
1/5/09	Jumble Sale	1 pm
8/5/09	Awareness Session-Wrong Turn	4.30 pm
12/5/09	Steering Committee Meeting	5 pm
16/5/09	Literacy Group	3 pm
21/5/09	Literacy Group	4.30pm
23/5/09	Walk About (with H&S volunteers)	
	Awareness Session Pentecostal Church	
28/5/09	Awareness Session Full Gospel	7 pm
31/5/09	Community Meeting	4.30 pm
30/5/09	Literacy Session	3 pm

DEN AMSTEL

Community Educator: Ebeth McIntosh

Community: Den Amstel, West Coast Demerara

Activities: A total of five visits (5) visits were made to this community for the month

of Persons Reached: Total- 91 Females-(57) Males- (34)

of Persons Newly Reached: Total- 74 Females (45) Males (29)

of H&S leaflets Distributed: 25

of MLHSSS DV Posters: 0

of GHARP Booklets (Super Gang & The Player)- 0

of Empowering Women Booklet- 0

of HIV Leaflets & Booklets -

of H&S Posters:

Objectives of Visits:

- To conduct an awareness sessions on Teenage Pregnancy with the Congregational Youth Group
- To conduct an awareness sessions on Child Physical Abuse at the Milder Cox Young Den Amstel Health Centre
- Fundraising Activity
- Attendance and participation in the Steering Committee Meeting
- To conduct an awareness session on Child Physical Abuse at the Christian Brethren Men Group
- To co- facilitate 2 day Peer Educators Follow up Workshops in Covent Garden

Community/Group & Individual Responses to Visits:

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions

Congregational Youth Group-Teenage Pregnancy-5th April

- A total of forty three (43) young people twenty three (23) females and twenty (20) males between the ages of 12-28 participated in a 3 hr awareness session on Teenage Pregnancy.
- Feedback from participants indicated that the session made them aware of some of the contributing factors leading to teenage pregnancy such as risky sexual practices, peer pressure, poverty, child abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, unstable home environment, and negative media influences including risky internet chat rooms and websites. Participants also learnt about some of the effects of teenage pregnancy both on the mother and child such as-high risk pregnancies, premature births, low birth weight, having to leave school because of pregnancy, unemployment due to a lack of day care services or the inability to pay for such services for the child, lack of opportunities, single parenthood etc. Participants said they will share the information gained with other persons because teenage pregnancy is on the increase in Den Amstel and in the world and they would like to help to reduce it.

Milder Cox Younge Health Centre- Child Physical Abuse-9th April

- A total of 21 mothers between the ages of 18-35 participated in a 2 hr awareness session on child physical abuse.
- Feedback from participants indicated that they welcomed the opportunity to talk about their childhood experiences and the physical and emotional effects it had on their lives. Most of the participants had experienced physical abuse during their childhood years. They felt that with the knowledge gained about the effects of physical abuse on the development of the child, they would try not to physically abuse their children. Participants also said that they would talk to others about child abuse and discourage them from physically abusing their children.
- Assessment of the session showed that participation, understanding of topics presented, facilitation and the session overall were all rated as very good.

Kingdom Connection Youth Group- Child Sexual Abuse-12th April

- A total of nineteen (19) young people, twelve (12) females and seven (7) males between the ages of 13-26 participated in a 3hr awareness session on child sexual abuse.
- Participants said that they learnt a lot from the session including what to do if a child tells them they are being sexually abused, i.e. steps they should take to help the child. Signs, behaviours including some of the physical symptoms that can indicate sexual abuse were also discussed so that participants would know what to look for in a case of suspected child sexual abuse. Ways to protect yourself and others from child sexual abuse were also shared with participants. During the sessions some real life incidents of child sexual abuse cases were shared by the facilitator, these made a big impact on participants who were saddened to know that so many children were being sexually abused. Participants also committed themselves to sharing what they had learnt with others and hoped that by doing this they would help to reduce incidents of child sexual abuse.
- In evaluating the session participation, understanding of topics, facilitation and the session overall were all rated as excellent.

Awareness Session-Christian Brethren Men's Group-Child Physical Abuse-19th April

- A total of eleven (11) men between the ages of 13-50 participated in this 3hr awareness session on child physical abuse.
- Participants shared experiences of physical abuse meted out to them as children. As children participants said they were physically abused by parents, grandparents and other relatives with firewood, knife, machine belt, coconut tree flower shoots etc. These beatings would have lasted from 15- 45 minutes and the men spoke about the pain they felt emotionally and physically and the effects these beatings had on them. Based on their own experiences, the men felt that no one deserves to be abused and they said they would not abuse their children. The male participants also said they would pass on this information to friends, church members, family members and anyone else they came into contact with.
- In assessing the session participation, understanding of the topic presented, facilitation and the session overall was rated as excellent.

Fundraising Meeting-13th April

- A total of seven (7) community members met to discuss their fundraising activity. A profit of \$4,840 was made from the fundraising sale which started at 1.30 pm and finished at 8 pm.

Steering Committee Meeting-16th April

- A total of five (5) persons attended the Steering Committee to discuss the fundraising activity and the community project. The challenges and successes of the fund raising activity were discussed as well as the project to paint the pedestrian crossing in the area between the Day Care Centre and Church St. it was agreed that this activity would be done before the end of April 2009 and leaflets and posters would be shared out at the same time to vehicles and persons using the roadway.

Peer Educators Workshop- 22nd & 23rd April

- **Please see separate report on evaluation of second Peer Educators Workshop held in Covent Garden**

DEN AMSTEL COMMUNITY EDUCATOR'S WORK PLAN- April, 2009

Date	Activity	Time
3/5/09	Awareness Session- Healthy/Unhealthy Relationships- Congregational Youth Group	
4/5/09	Awareness Session-Child Sexual Abuse- Den Amstel Pre Natal Health Centre	
10/5/09	Awareness Session- Child Physical Abuse-Kingdom Connection Youth Group	
12/5/09	Awareness Session-Teenage Pregnancy-Restoration Women's Group	
14/5/09	-Steering Committee Meeting	
17/5/09	Awareness Session-Child Sexual Abuse-Christian Brethren Men's Group	
18/5/09	Awareness Session- Healthy/Unhealthy Relationships-Christian Brethren Women's Group	
19/5/09	Awareness Session- Child Neglect-Den Amstel Nursery School Teachers	
21/5/09	Awareness Session-Child Physical Abuse-Congregational Willing Workers Women's Group	

GOOD HOPE

Community Educator: Montgomery Chester

Community: Good Hope, East Bank Demerara

Activities: A total of seven (7) visits were made to this community for the month

of Persons Reached: Total- 27 Female (12) Male (15)

of Persons Newly Reached: Total- 27 Females (12) Males (15)

of H&S leaflets Distributed: 106

of HIV/AIDS Brochures – 0

of Brochures on Condoms – 0

Objectives of Visits:

- Community outreach- building awareness among men by engaging in individual and group discussion with cricket team members
- Planning meeting with the community mobiliser
- Attendance and participation at Steering Committee meeting
- House to house visits to promote awareness about the community based project to reduce gender based violence
- Address to Hindu Community on the Observance of Navratri by Pandit Navin of the Good Hope Mandir

Community/Group & Individual Responses to Visits:

Community Outreach- Building links with Men through One on One and Group Discussions-5th, 12th 19th April

- Community educator engaged in playing cricket as usual with the young men in Good Hope on three occasions. Based on conversations, the community educator was able to observe that indecent language and alcohol abuse play a major part in their normal behaviour patterns. After the last cricket game the community educator had a brief discussion about doing an awareness session with the players.

Planning Meetings with Community Mobiliser- 6th April

- During this visit the community educator and mobiliser discussed a suitable date and venue for the holding of a steering committee meeting and plans for community based activities.

Steering Committee Meeting- 15th April

- A total of five persons attended the steering committee meeting. A review was done of project activities during the previous two months including the peer educators' workshops and religious leaders' workshop. One of the steering committee's members, who is a pastor and had attended the religious leaders' workshop, shared his views and experiences of this workshop.
- The role of the media in being a negative influence in the promotion of gender based violence was discussed. Arising out of this discussion a decision was taken by the steering committee to write letters requesting the removal of certain programmes from the air waves.
- The steering committee also identified a number of activities which they plan to implement in Good Hope. These include

- Citizens' Empowerment Workshop
- Movie Night
- Village March
- Designate Good Hope a Violence Free, Drug Free, Rum Free Village

House to House- Walk-About Through the Community-26th April

- A total of nine (9) persons took part in this activity including the community educator, community mobiliser, steering committee members, peer educators and project coordinator. The team visited Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the community stopping at various households, distributing leaflets and raising awareness about the work of the project in the community.
- The majority of persons reached showed an interest in being involved in the project and the plan is to invite these persons to take part in project activities. At one of the houses visited a woman disclosed that her husband is abusive. The wife claimed that she experiences verbal and emotional and threats to kill her. The husband also had visible marks of violence while the wife had none. Follow –up work will be done with this couple.

Steering Committee Meeting - 29th April

- A total of eight persons attended the steering committee meeting. The main objective of the meeting was to finalize plans for the upcoming movie night scheduled for May 3. Three new persons were invited to become members of the steering committee.
- **Movie Night-** the steering committee is catering for an attendance of more than 50 persons. Refreshments will be on sale as this activity will also be a fundraiser for the steering committee. The activity will be held at the home of one of the members of the steering committee and the movie “Heaven on Earth will be viewed.
- One of the new members who is experiencing domestic abuse was counseled by the 2 religious leaders present. A group session with the family is being planned in the near future.

Address to Hindu Community on the Observance of Navratri - Pandit Navin - Good Hope Mandir - April

- Pandit Navin, who attended the workshop for religious leaders on gender based violence, spoke to a huge crowd of Hindu devotees during the religious services to mark the occasion of Navratri on what he had learned at the workshop. He said that the Navratri services were all about worshipping goddesses and mothers. He went on to explain that all women should be seen in the same light and treated as such, whether they are mothers, wives, sisters, daughters or girlfriends. Pandit Navin emphasized that he was horrified at what he learned at the workshop about abuse and violence against women. The number of women who suffer and die at the hands of their close relatives moved him. He closed the service by saying he hopes everyone takes domestic violence seriously and tries to put a stop to it.

GOOD HOPE COMMUNITY EDUCATOR WORKPLAN-May 2008

Date	Activity	Time
3/5/09	Movie Night	5 pm
8/5/09	Meeting with Muslim Community	2 pm
10/5/09 17/5/09 24/5/09 31/5/09	Engage men in the community through cricket games	3 pm
13/5/09	Steering Committee Meeting	5 pm
16/4/09	Session with Suzy's Family	