



2017, Issue

Third Edition

# THE ENHANCER

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pg. 2

- *NCD's Reps. Meet Hon. Minister of Public Health*
- *NCD's Reps. Meet CARICOM / Cuba Project Team*
- *Open Doors Centre 'Open Day & Sale'*

Pg. 3

- *Sensitization on PWD Act, 2010*
- *LINSEED 's Seminar for Persons with Intellectual Impairment*

Pg. 4

- *Pictures from Open Doors Centre 'Sale & Open Day'*
- *Sensitization Sessions held for 3rd Quarter of 2017*

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NCD?

### NCD representatives meet Minister of Public Health



Hon. Minister Volda Lawrence (third from right), NCD's Chairperson Evelyn Hamilton & other representatives on June 6th, 2017

Commissioners of the National Commission on Disability (NCD) met with the Hon. Minister of Public Health Volda Lawrence on July 6th, 2017 at NCD's Secretariat 49 Croal Street, Georgetown.

The Agenda featured pivotal issues regarding Persons with disabilities (PWDs) and present and future Programs of the Commission.

Current activities of NCD discussed included:-

- National Household Survey on PWDs in all the administrative regions of Guyana.
- Sensitization on disability issues & the Guyana Persons with Disability Act, 2010 and
- Quarterly production of NCD's Newsletter "The Enhancer"

Meanwhile, future activities of the Commission discussed included:-

- Production of Identification Cards for PWDs and
- Nationwide Advocacy work for PWDs such as Complaints and Referral Desk.

Collaborations with the Ministry of Public Health underscored included:-

- Establishment of a National program on Early Detection and Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities
- Eye Care program at the Rehabilitation Department of the Ministry of Public Health and
- Provision of specialized Health Professionals to care for PWDs, among other plans.

The Commission assured the Hon. Minister Lawrence that efforts will be made to work collectively in achieving outlined goals.

(Con't Pg. 2)

## REPORT DISCRIMINATION

A format for reporting all discrimination against Persons with Disabilities is now available. Such matters can be reported to the Commission's Secretariat at 49 Croal Street, Georgetown.





## **Open Doors Vocational Training Centre - 'Open Day & Sale'**

The staff and trainees of Open Doors Vocational Training Centre held an "Open Day & Sale of Work" on June 22nd, 2017 at the Centre, C Field Sophia. This was in observance of "REHAB WEEK", 2017 (June 19—25) which was observed under the theme—"Reaching Out: Empowering Communities"

The event showcased items: which included craft, wood work, fabric paintings, among others, that were made by past and present students of the Centre.

Ms. Avril Boston – Craft Instructor and Mr. Michael Trotman - Carpentry Instructor were on site explaining materials used to make items / prices and so forth to patrons.

Open Doors Vocational Training Centre offers vocational skills training in courses such as Language, Information Technology, Garment Construction, Craft, Electronics / Carpentry and Joinery. The Centre caters for Persons with Disabilities who are given the opportunity to learn life and income generating skills.

(Con't Pg. 4)

## **NCD Representatives meet Cuba Project team**



**NCD's Chairperson Evelyn Hamilton (sixth from left) and some members of CARICOM / Cuba Project & some NCD Commissioners on June 6th, 2017**

The National Commission on Disability (NCD) representatives met with a team from Cuba in relation to the setting up of a Regional Training Centre in Guyana. The meeting was held on July 6th, 2017 at the Commission's Secretariat 49 Croal Street, Georgetown.

Chairperson of NCD Evelyn Hamilton welcomed the team from Cuba and introduced NCD's

Commissioners and Cuba Ambassador to Guyana Julio César González Marchante introduced the members of the Cuban team.

The setting up of the Regional Training Centre is geared to stimulate the development of children, adolescents and youths with Special Education Needs associated with disabilities.

The Agenda of discussion were:-

- Briefing on the National Commission on Disability (NCD)
- Data on Persons with disabilities in Guyana
- Guyana Person with Disability Act, 2010 and
- Specifics on the Regional Training Centre

NCD's chairperson provided a summation of the Commission's functions which included:- A Policy advising and Advocacy body, the focal point on disability matters regarding PWDs in Guyana and the aim of working towards the fulfillment of Rights of PWDs in Guyana, among others.

The Cuban team sought NCD's assistance in providing data on PWDs in Guyana, specifically their disability types. NCD committed to make this information available on regions 6, 5 & 2

(Con't on Pg.3)

## **NCD reps. Meet Minister of Public Health**

This meeting was the first with the Hon. Minister since she was reassigned from the Ministry of Social Protection to head the Ministry of Public Health in January, 2017.

NCD's representatives were satisfied with Minister's Lawrence applaud for the recent achievement by the Commission in Data gathered so far on PWDs from surveys done in regions 6, 5 and 2.

The Commission was represented by Chairperson Evelyn Hamilton, Commissioners Ganesh Singh, Barbara Lawrence, Shelley Wilson, Patrick Singh, Collin Ault, Hilton Morris and Executive Secretary Beverly Pile.



## Sensitization on Persons with Disabilities Act, 2010

The National Commission on Disability (NCD) continues its sensitization drive to educate the Guyanese populace on the content of the Guyana Person's with Disabilities Act, 2010 , NCD's Roles / Functions and Disability Etiquette.

Staff of the Suddie Hospital—Region # 2 were sensitized on June 27th, 2017.

A total of nineteen participants attended the session, which included General Medical Officers, the Regional Chairman, Staff Nurse, Rehabilitation Assistant, Probation Officer, Ward Orderly and Ward Maids.

The session was facilitated by Avonel Corrica Advocacy & Communication Officer: NCD, Satrupa Singh and Leroy Phillips—Volunteers: NCD.

Dr. Kilanti Das was presented with Disability Etiquette Posters by NCD's Volunteers Satrupa Singh , which is to be distributed to various departments of Suddie Hospital.

Meanwhile, the Child Care and Protection Agency—Ministry of Social Protection session was held on July 18th, 2017. The Agenda of the session remained the same.

A total of ten participants attended the session primarily, Child Protection Officers.

Other NCD Volunteers facilitated this session were Ganesh Singh and Kevin, along with Avonel Corrica.

NCD continues to promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities through Sensitization sessions with various Governmental and Non-Governmental Agencies.

(Con't on Pg. 4)

## NCD's Reps. Meet Cuba Project ...

where surveys have been completed.

Legislation was also discussed and the Cubans sought a copy of the Guyana Persons with Disability Act, 2010. Inquiries were also made on the implementation level of the Act thus far. NCD's representatives highlighted aspects of the Act that have been implemented to date and pointed out areas that need to be looked at. These include Accessibility, Transportation and Delivery of Education to PWDs.

A synopsis of the intended Regional Training Centre was provided by the Cubans and this included:- Guyana being the "Hub" for the entire CARICOM member states, to facilitate training in respect to educational and physical development of PWDs. Identification of PWDs disability types, among others.

The seven member Cuban team included Julio César González: Ambassador of Cuba to Guyana, Mijail Benavides Lascaille: Head of the Collaboration Department Ministry of Education, Jorge Duvalon Ramirez: Project Coordinator, Barbara Martinez Rojas: Physiotherapist, Rada Hernández: Speech therapist, Aymara Solis Tarrago: Psychologist and Maria Caridad Garcia Velez: Special Education expert.

## LINSEED Sponsors Seminar for Caregivers of PWDs

Linden Supporting Efforts for the Empowerment of Persons with disabilities (LINSEED) sponsored a seminar for Caregivers of persons with intellectual impairments on July 19th, 2017 at the Mackenzie Primary School, Linden.

A total of twenty five persons attended the seminar which was facilitated by Dr. Delicia Thomas, Gwendoline Glasgow: Social Worker and June Julien: Social Worker & LINSEED member.

The Programme content included:- a Presentation on Down Syndrome by Dr. Thomas, Empowerment Presentation by Ms. Glasgow and The Importance of Self Care by Ms. Julien.

Achievements of the seminar included:- Invitation for participants to become members of LINSEED, empowered parents and caregivers of the intellectual impaired capability assured, to take on a life of their own, among others.

Participants expressed gratitude for the content and importance of seminar to improving their lives.



Dr. Delicia Thomas Ms. June Julien  
on July 19th, 2017 Seminar



Some participants at the Seminar



## Open Day & Sale of Work . . .

### National Commission on Disability

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#### SEND US YOUR STORIES!

We believe in sharing Information between all Disability organizations and other concerned parties, and we are happy to publish all relevant stories in the Enhancer. If you have any stories you would like us to write about, please contact NCD's Secretariat at the above numbers and e-mail address.



September, 2017 Production  
By: Avonel Corrica –  
Advocacy & Communication  
Officer: NCD

Fabric Painted Items



Cushions &  
Kitchen Curtains



Cushions

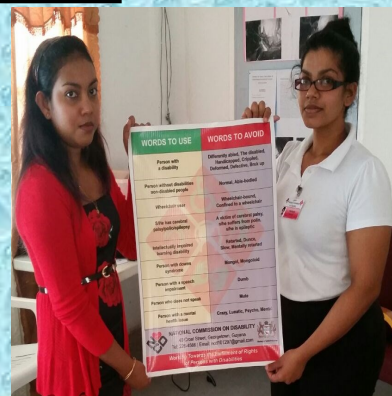


Paper towel Holder

## Sensitization on PWDs Act . . .



Participants of Suddie Hospital on June 27th, 2017



Dr. Khilanti Das (Left) & Satrupa Singh



Participants of Child  
Care & Protection Agency  
Sensitization on July  
18th, 2017