

# Annual Review



Proud to deliver

**THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S  
INTERNATIONAL AWARD**



# 2021



# Our Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is a global non-formal education framework which operates in more than 130 countries and territories, helping to inspire young people to dream big, celebrate their achievements and make a difference in their world.

## The Award is:

- open to all young people aged 14-24, regardless of their circumstances.
- about personal development; it is a non-competitive, enjoyable, voluntary and balanced programme, which requires sustained effort over time.
- a non-formal educational framework which can complement formal education or offer a substitute where formal opportunities are not available.
- a programme that enables young people to demonstrate self-development within an internationally recognized framework.
- comprised of three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold - each progressively more challenging.
- comprised of four sections: Voluntary Service, Skills, Physical Recreation and Adventurous Journey, and includes a Residential Project at Gold level.

## The unique strengths of the Award are that:

- ⇒ it can be used by any group or organization working with young people. It offers youth agencies and organizations a way of gaining international accreditation for development activities with young people.
- ⇒ it is based on enduring principals and robust methodology, but is flexible enough to be used with any group of young people, whatever their needs.
- ⇒ it focuses on self-directed learning, based on individual goals. Any young person can take part and achieve their Award in their own personal way.
- ⇒ it is a low-cost intervention which uses existing youth development networks and infrastructure to reach young people. Each new leader trained to run the Award supports around twenty new participants to begin their Award.
- ⇒ it is a locally adaptable programme, flexible enough to meet the objectives of local and national youth policy objectives.
- ⇒ it is supported by an extensive global network that ensures its quality and provides access to youth development expertise, training and best practices.



**Our Patron**  
**His Excellency, The Most Honourable**  
**Sir Cornelius A. Smith, GCMG**  
**Governor General**



Sir Gerald Cash  
1987-1988



Sir Henry Taylor  
1988 - 1992



Sir Clifford Darling  
1992 - 1995



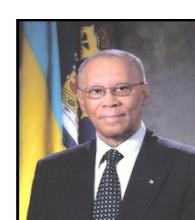
Sir Orville Turnquest  
1995 - 2001



Dame Ivy Dumont  
2002 - 2005



Sir Arthur Hanna  
2006 - 2009



Sir Arthur Foulkes  
2009 - 2014



Her Excellency,  
 The Most Hon. Dame Marguerite  
 Pindling  
 2014 - 2019

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## MR. JOHN BETHELL

### CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Although we were locked down for most of 2021, the Governor General's Youth Award (GGYA) had a busy year.

We had 963 registrations, 92 Awards were gained, there are 40 registered units and 116 volunteers.

Four Units were restarted: In Abaco at S. C. Bootle High School, in Grand Bahama at Alpha Omega and Teleos Christian School and St. John's College in New Providence.

The Beacon School Group received 9 Bronze Awards and C. C. Sweeting High School received Bronze awards for the first time in 7 years. Nine participants were nominated for the Ministry of Youth Sports and Culture's National Youth Award. Our former national executive director, Ms. Mortimer, received the Ministry of Youth Sports and Culture's, Youth Practitioners Living Legend. Captain Henry Curry, among 100 others, received the Duke of Edinburgh's special coin.

We attended a virtual International Council meeting, held an Earth Day activity, partnered with the HIV/AIDS Foundation, registered with the National Accreditation and Equivalency Council of the Bahamas, partnered with Beach Buddies for International Coastal Cleanup, the Bahamas Disabilities Association dollar drive and the Ocean Heroes Boot Camp virtual exploration.

Financial support continued from the Ministry of Youth, Sports & Culture and also the Ministry of Education, Technical & Vocational Training. We acquired a Special Project: 3 Fund Grant for the Building Experiences Together Project over three years.

There was a radio appearance and ten mainstream media publications.

Camping supplies were donated by NEMA and since the Covid 19 lockdown, a cycling Adventurous Journey was completed, a Gold Adventurous Journey (sailing) was completed and seven Adventurous Journey expeditions using the International Award Association's Covid 19 guidelines.

We purchased a building in Shirlea into which we will move in the new year as soon as repairs and modifications are completed.

Thank you for your continued support for our organization which we hope to grow larger next year.

**Mr. John Bethell**  
**Chairman**



**ARCHDEACON JAMES PALACIOS**

**CHAIRMAN OF THE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL BAHAMAS**

I am pleased to present this report for Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2021. This presentation affords us the opportunity to review our successes and challenges of the preceding year, while developing strategies and methods to further strengthen the Award during the current year and beyond.

Despite these challenging times, The Bahamas continues to engage young people who participated and completed the Award, which speaks volumes to the resilience of this youth programme in The Bahamas.

The lingering effects of covid 19 continued to be a major hurdle for all of our stakeholders. However, we were and continue to be encouraged and inspired by the determination of young people and the unwavering commitment of our volunteers.

In this regard, I wish to thank the many persons who work tirelessly to ensure that the core values of the Award were embraced and diligently executed, despite the disruptions of covid.

We are grateful to our Patron, His Excellency The Most Honourable Sir Cornelius Smith, Governor General of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, who supports our Award programme in our endeavors.

There are never adequate words to express the depth of appreciation and gratitude to our many leaders, volunteers, parents and teachers for their overwhelming assistance with the Award, particularly during the last year.

Thank you sincerely to our director, Jacquetta Maycock, whose persistent commitment to the daily operations of the programme has seen to the success of which we boast. Also, to the office administrator, Mrs. Alicia Owens-Newton, who, as ever, has been the engine that keeps the GGYA machine functioning effectively.

Best wishes for continued success in the coming years.





## National Director Message

“Great leaders don’t set out to be a leader...they set out to make a difference. It’s never about the role – always about the goal. I regard it as a great privilege to commend the many individuals who together contribute so much each year to achieve our great success by their contributions to this inspiring Programme, which provides tremendous value to the positive development of its youthful participants. Training of young people in soft skills via non-formal education mediums is far more important now than ever, as they prepare to enter the post-adolescent stage of their lives. Despite the many disruptions in our ‘normal’ way of operating GGYA, it continuously proves to make an important and positive contribution in developing a great sense of responsibility for community service. It also encourages and cultivates personal and vocational life skills, resourcefulness, physical perseverance, healthy lifestyles and a spirit of adventure and proper citizenship. This is what it takes to build a strong nation and GGYA has proven to be a vital proponent of the nation building process.

The work of the GGYA during the past year has not come without much challenge. The after effects of the pandemic lingered throughout our ability to plan and execute such plans in many ways. However, we remained diligent in our efforts and can celebrate our success.

Over the reporting period, we received a significant grant from the International Award Foundation’s Special Project Three Funds Grant, which has contributed to extending the reach of our Programme to The Beacon School in Grand Bahama, and moving forward, to The Willie-Mae Pratt Center for Girls, The Simpson Penn School, Program S.U.R.E and Stapleton School.

The entire Award family and the country was saddened by the passing of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip, founder of the Award Programme. Prince Philip made numerous visits to our shores and made every effort to engage young people. He played an integral role in the promotion of our Programme and displayed a genuine love and respect for the youth of The Bahamas. In fact, it was his initial idea that would have triggered our popular annual national expedition – Bahamas Award Super Expedition (B.A.S.E.).

I am therefore privileged to congratulate all the Trustees, Council Members and the many volunteers and participants in the GGYA Programme as we convene in this Annual General Meeting for the year 2021, and to assure our stakeholders that the GGYA continues to attract the support and sincere appreciation of all Bahamians as we forge forward, faster and fairer.

## 2021 Highlights

- 963 Registrations
- 92 Awards gained
- 40 Registered Units.
- 116 Volunteers.
- 4 Units Restarted: Abaco at S.C. Bootle High, Grand Bahama at Alpha Omega and Teleos Christian School and St. John’s College in New Providence.
- The Beacon School participants receive 9 Bronze Awards.
- C.C. Sweeting High School received Bronze Awards for the 1<sup>st</sup> time for more than 7 years.
- Financial support continued from Ministry of Youth, Sports & Culture and Ministry of Education, Technical & Vocational Training.
- Attended Virtual International Council Meeting.
- Held Earth Day Activity.
- Partnered with HIV/ AIDS Foundation.
- Camping Supplies donated by NEMA .
- First Cycling Adventurous Journey completed since Covid 19.
- First Gold Q Adventurous Journey (sailing) completed since Covid 19.
- Radio Talk show appearance.
- Register with National Accreditation and Equivalency Council of The Bahamas ( NAECOB).
- Partner with Beach Buddies for International Coastal Clean-up.
- 9 Nominated for Ministry of Youth, Sports & Culture National Youth Award.
- Former National Executive Director received the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture’s Youth Practitioner’s Living Legend.
- Captain Henry Curry Among 100 receive Duke of Edinburgh’s Special Coin
- Acquired Special Project: 3 Fund Grant for Building Experiences Together Project over 3 years.
- Partnered with Bahamas Disabilities Association Dollar Drive.
- 7 Adventurous Journey Expeditions using International Award Association Covid 19 Guidelines.
- 10 mainstream media publications stories.
- Partnered with Ocean Heroes Boot camp virtual exploration.

## 2021Stats

### Participation

A young person ‘actively participating’ is defined as a young person currently pursuing his/her Award by undertaking regular activities for at least one section of the Award. This includes all new entrants and those who previously joined the Award, even if they have not yet achieved the Level of Award they are currently pursuing.

Award Level	Male	Female	Total
Bronze	326	486	812
Silver	40	61	101
Gold	32	18	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>963</b>



### New Entrants

**This includes:**

- Direct Entrants– Starting programme for first time
- Continuing Participants – Achieved a previous Award but moving to the next Award level

Award Level	Male	Female	Total
Bronze – <i>Direct</i>	221	389	610
Silver - <i>Direct</i>	4		4
Silver – <i>Continuing</i>	36	10	46
Gold - <i>Direct</i>	2	2	4
Gold - <i>Continuing</i>	30	16	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>710</b>

## Reaching Young People At Risk Groups

This include targeted persons and those that participated in GGYA.

Group	Targeted	How many Award Centres do you have that works with this at-risk group?
Does your organisation have a formal definition of <b>Young Offenders</b> ?	Yes	1
Minority linguistic, religious, and ethnic groups that are marginalised	Yes	16
Adolescents in urban settings	Yes	40
Young people who are considered to have a physical, learning or other disability	Yes	1
Young people in humanitarian settings - internally displaced, refugees, separated, unaccompanied	Yes	13

## Units

Justice or Youth Justice	1
Uniformed Organizations	3
Government Schools	16
Community Group or Organization	1
Independent Schools	18
Open Award Centre	1



## Volunteers

Award Leader (including voluntary Award Leaders and youth workers) <b>116</b>	Other adult volunteers (including assessors, trustees, and management council members, but not Award Leaders) <b>44</b>
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## Island by Island

Throughout The Bahamas, the aftermath of covid 19 left few opportunities for our units to resume active participation with our young people. Notwithstanding this, the GGYA continued to impact the lives of hundreds of young people throughout the islands. Although some units remain dormant, we can be proud of the accomplishments we have made. Units were active on Abaco, Andros, Eleuthera, Exuma, Grand Bahama, Long Island and Inagua

Five hundred seventeen participants were spread amongst twenty units. These were: Anatol Rodgers High, Aquinas College, C.C. Sweeting Sr. High, C.V. Bethel High, C.V. Hart Institute, Excellence for Higher Learning All Age, Kingsway Academy, Leadership Academy, Lyford Cay International School, Nassau Christian School, Queen's College, R.M. Bailey High, Royal Bahamas Defence Force Rangers, Royal Bahamas Police Force Cadets, St. Augustine's College, St. Barnabas 23rd Boys Brigade, St. John's College, Teleos Christian School, Temple Christian and Willimae Pratt School for Girls.

We presented 63 awards; 2 Gold, 22 Silver and 39 Bronze.

On Grand Bahama, there were 10 units, 292 participants, 32 volunteers and 22 participants achieved their awards. This was the second largest number of participation on any island. Schools that participated in the Award were: Bishop Michael Eldon High, Lucaya International School, St. George's High and The Beacon School.

As Abaco was still recovering from the devastation of Hurricane Dorian, followed by the crippling effect of the pandemic and just as they were getting back to a period of normalcy, one unit at the S.C. Bootle High School remained. Registering 9 participants under the guidance of one volunteer, they diligently tried to keep them motivated in spite of the many challenges that affected continuous engagement.

The Bahamas Agricultural and Marine Science Institute in North Andros made every effort to keep participants engaged virtually. When the school closed for face to face engagement, many of the enrolled participants left the island or were stuck on other islands due to Covid 19 travel restrictions.



One unit on The Berry Islands at R.N. Gomez All Age School had 4 new participants registered that attempted to complete their Award journey. Two unit leaders did their best to keep them engaged although the island was under restrictions from any or all in person meetings.

The 68 young people participating in the Award in the 3 units in Eleuthera utilized the virtual platform to continue meetings at Harbour Island All Age, North Eleuthera High School and Preston H. Albury High School. They were being guided by 9 highly motivated volunteers.

There were 2 active units on Exuma in 2021 at the L. N. Coakley High School and St. Andrew's Anglican School. With 28 determined participants and 7 volunteers, these units used any opportunity they could to keep meetings with their young people.

The country's southernmost island of Inagua had an enthusiastic group of 32 participants at the Inagua All Age School, with 4 devoted adult mentors. This ambitious group of individuals could be named as the first unit to embark on an Adventurous Journey under covid restrictions. As a result of this, 7 participants were able to achieve their Bronze Awards.

Topping off our active units is the lone unit at N.G. Major High School on Long Island, which registered 19 participants assisted by 5 committed volunteers.

Islands	No. Units	*No. Participants	Volunteers
New Providence	20	517	54
Grand Bahama	10	290	32
Abaco	1	9	1
Andros	1		2
Berry Islands	1		2
Eleuthera	3	68	9
Exuma	2	28	7
Inagua	1	32	4
Long Island	1	19	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>116</b>

Based on our annual statistics review submitted to the International Award Foundation on the ORB.



## GGYA Activities: Service, Skills, Physical Recreation and Adventurous Journeys

The GGYA held a number of activities in partnership with local NGOs in the hopes of allowing participants the opportunity to truly experience the impact of helping the wider community in addition to preventing further negative mental and social health challenge as a result of the lingering impact of covid 19. In all instances the safety of our young people was our number one priority, and therefore we mandated mask, wearing, small groups, sanitizing, and safe physical proximity at all of our activities. We were able to gain approvals from the Ministry of Health and Wellness to accommodate specific numbers of participants to host activities. Working with the Bahamas National Trust we assisted in an Earth Day Service and Skill in April by learning about the benefits of mangroves specifically in Adelaide Village, and painting banners that raised awareness of the importance of planting trees. Participants also volunteered for the International Coastal Cleanup in a partnership with Beach Buddies and Dolphin Encounters in September.

We also assisted the Bahamas Red Cross Society with numerous voluntary activities, and in November we assisted with the Disabilities Awareness Month by distributing awareness fliers for the Bahamas Disabilities Awareness Association. Finally in December, we reconnected our partnership with the HIV/AIDS Foundation after about 5 years. Participants tied red ribbons on trees around various parts of the island as a reminder of our combined efforts in the fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS.

As we continued to navigate around Emergency Orders, we witnessed extraordinary creativity, persistence, perseverance and resilience. Our participants continued to serve their communities, learn new skills, maintain active lifestyles and embark on adventurous journeys whilst maintaining safety guidelines and mandated protocols.

With temporary changes to Award guidelines that allowed participants to work from home, the most common Voluntary Service activities included food packaging and distribution, beach clean-ups, participating in virtual Eco School clubs, sanitizing classroom environments during hybrid learning, and virtual tutoring.

Favored Skills were learning a language or how to play an instrument online, improving personal hobbies such as reading, digital coding, chess, cooking, gardening, and learning to sew or make face masks.

Physical recreation activities were mostly done from home or within their immediate environment, with young people working on personal fitness goals with virtual workouts. Others stayed active by doing online yoga, Zumba or aerobics lessons, playing tennis, soccer, kayaking, karate, and walks around their neighborhood or at the beach. More than ever, the Adventurous Journey became extremely popular in 2021, despite covid 19. Even as we adhered to national Emergency Protocols, participants excitedly awaited to get back outdoors. Despite the lock down every effort for safety was put in place to allow participants to complete this requirement. Units were not allowed to mix, but stay in their school bubbles. Participants were not allowed to share tents, and camp craft activities were shared with fewer numbers. Mask wearing, sanitizing, and distancing when necessary were continuous.

While maintaining group bubbles, social distancing, sanitizing, and mask wearing when necessary, AJ activities ranged from virtual explorations, small group expeditions, kayaking, sailing and cycling.

Bronze expeditions totaled 6 across New Providence, Grand Bahama, Inagua and Exuma, along with 2 Silver expeditions undertaken in Grand Bahama and New Providence, and 1 Gold qualifying involving sailing.



## Awards

Officials may never quantify the exact loss of teaching and learning during the coronavirus pandemic, but even if progress stalled temporarily in the classroom, ninety-two participants in the Governor General's Youth Award (GGYA) surged forward to celebrate an internationally recognized achievement – one, which for many, represents the gold standard in non-formal education.

Since the onset of COVID-19, GGYA has presented more than 100 awards to units in New Providence and the Family Islands.

Considering the times, it speaks to young people that are determined to change the status quo and work toward their goals while overcoming huge obstacles.

Successful Award participants hailed from C.V. Bethel, R.M. Bailey, Queen's College, Lyford Cay International School, C.C. Sweeting, C.V. Hart Institute, RBDF Rangers, Inagua's All Age and from schools in Grand Bahama, including St. George's High, Lucaya International, Bishop Michael Eldon and The Beacon School.

With the future more unpredictable than ever, young people rose to the challenge, supported by parents, unit leaders and volunteers.

C.C. Sweeting Sr. in particular stood out. The school recorded its first batch of Awards in a decade. GGYA credits unit leader Edwin Johnson, Chuck Smith and Lezelye Sands for encouraging the youth to stick with it.

Long before the pandemic struck, the Duke of Edinburgh Award invested in digital tools and technology to help participants track their progress and for unit leaders to monitor those efforts. Consequently, taking the Programme online was not an onerous task.

With the past year spent largely in social isolation, GGYA participants who took the opportunity to build life skills, found themselves more resilient and adaptable.

As a nation, we've been too quiet about what our young people are doing in positive areas. These young people have proven that COVID-19 did not signal the end of life, just a means to get creative and pivot off their current track. I am extremely proud of what they have accomplished.

To qualify for the Gold, the Award's highest level, participants must complete twelve months of service, skill, and physical recreation if they are Silver recipients.

Participants qualifying for the Silver and Bronze Awards totaled ninety. There were sixty-four Bronze and twenty-six Silvers.

Award	Male	Female	Total
Bronze	29	35	64
Silver	14	12	26
Gold	1	1	2
Total	44	48	92



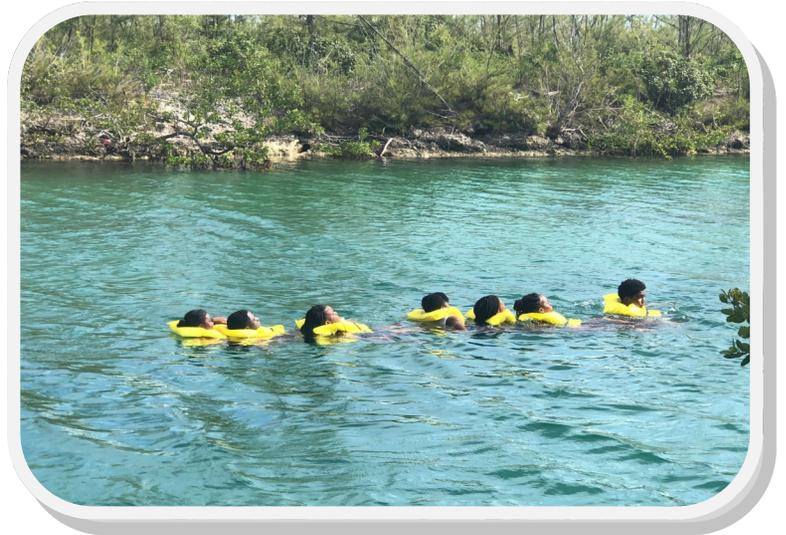
## Training

Training remains a key ingredient to the delivery of a quality programme for both our volunteers and participants alike. From the onset of the pandemic, global leadership of the Award programme assembled regularly to seek ways to ensure that while temporary changes were made to the delivery of the programme, our volunteers were not deprived on the training necessary to carry our programme forward, and participants could benefit from the implementation of such.

As face-to-face training was discouraged because of the Emergency Orders, we were able to promote opportunities for training on a digital platform. The switch to fully virtual training allowed for a shared vision where volunteers can participate in and benefit from best practices of Award centers all around the world. Award Leaders were encouraged to take advantage of online training available to them on the Online Learning Hub at [www.awardcommunity.org](http://www.awardcommunity.org). This platform includes free training modules and certification for all individuals concerned with the delivery of the Award, and to communicate with other Award volunteers around the world.

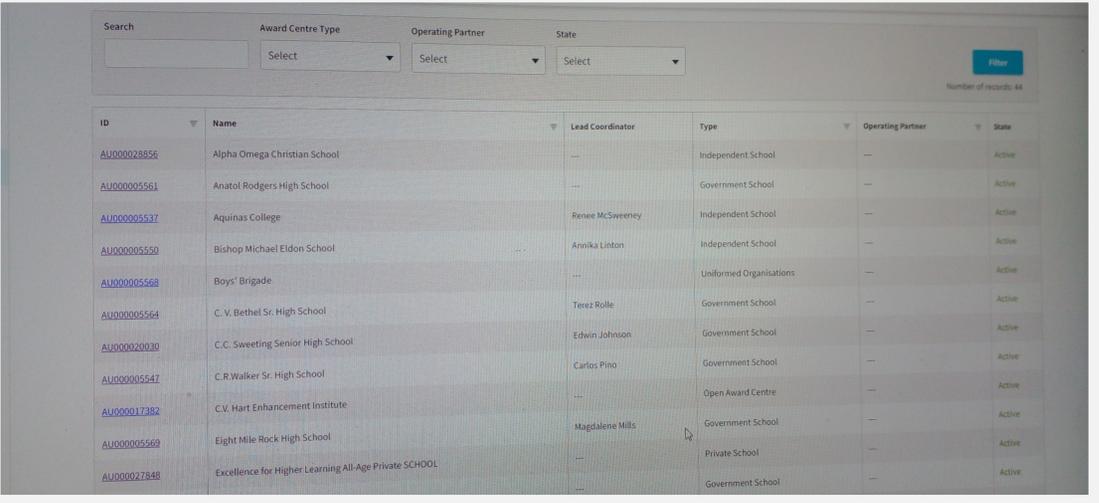
Additionally, stakeholders were able to attend workshops hosted by the International Award Foundation and other experts in various fields seeking to assist NAOs on ways to move the programme forward through covid.

For participants, training for Adventurous Journeys resumed via online means, although, special permission was acquired from the Ministry of Health to hold a Water Safety Training for a limited number of young people.



As for Award leaders, some of these beneficial training courses that they participated in during this time were:

- Virtual Award Trainer Skills Course
- Award leaders training courses involving - Award Induction and Award Delivery
- Adventurous Journey
- Online Record Book
- Introduction to Safeguarding for all Adults Involved in the Award



ID	Name	Lead Coordinator	Type	Operating Partner	State
AU000028856	Alpha Omega Christian School	---	Independent School	---	Active
AU000005561	Anatol Rodgers High School	---	Government School	---	Active
AU000005537	Aquinas College	Renee McSweeney	Independent School	---	Active
AU000005550	Bishop Michael Eldon School	Amika Linton	Independent School	---	Active
AU000005568	Boys' Brigade	---	Uniformed Organisations	---	Active
AU000005564	C. V. Bethel Sr. High School	Terez Rolle	Government School	---	Active
AU000020030	C.C. Sweeting Senior High School	Edwin Johnson	Government School	---	Active
AU000005547	C.R.Walker Sr. High School	Carlos Pino	Government School	---	Active
AU000017382	C.V. Hart Enhancement Institute	---	Open Award Centre	---	Active
AU000005569	Eight Mile Rock High School	Magdalene Mills	Government School	---	Active
AU000027848	Excellence for Higher Learning All-Age Private SCHOOL	---	Private School	---	Active
---	---	---	Government School	---	Active

## International Engagement

There were many international engagements throughout the course of the year. As a result of the pandemic regular monthly meetings of the International Award Foundation were held.

These meetings kept National Award Operators engaged in aspects of the program that changed temporarily during covid to ensure participants could continue to pursue their Award journey from home.

### Regional meetings

Four Regional meetings were held for Award Operators in the different regions. These included Africa Region, Asia Pacific Region, Europe, Mediterranean, and Arab States (EMAS) Region. Moreover meetings for the Americas Region which includes The United States, Canada, The Bahamas and the Caribbean were held on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Topics of discussion were: 2020 Statics Review, Peer to Peer sharing, Regional Proposals, IGE and Forum 2025, The role of the Emerging Leader, Future of Regional Meeting, International Council (IC) Elections and Forum 2022, National Award Operator (NAO) Levy proposals

### International Council Meeting

The International Council meeting was held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. The first of its kind to follow an entirely virtual model, this framework allowed the meetings included essential training sessions to equip stakeholders with tools necessary to assist NAOs to accommodate the myriad of changes and challenges that could help the Award programme to grow and expand in the aftermath of the pandemic.

These workshops included: NAO Contributions, Emerging Leaders and IGE, Sustainability and Mental Health

Attendance at these workshops were open to Board executives, and Council representatives from NAOs around the worlds.

The year 2021 was designated to celebrate the one hundredth birthday of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh Prince Philip. However, devastating news of his death in April, before this momentous occasion, left the global Award family in a state of shock. And as the world sadly accepted this reality, and reflected on the contributions of this great man, the Award in The Bahamas joined in remembering his impact on the GGYA programme. A memorial service was held at Christ Church Cathedral, attended by The Governor General, heads of Government, along with a number of members and supporters of the GGYA.

Prince Philip was a champion of the infinite potential of young people and a pioneer in non-formal education and learning. Pivoting from what was initially planned as a birthday celebration on June 10<sup>th</sup>, then became a global celebration of the life and legacy of HRH Prince Philip. GGYA joined an audience of well over a thousand viewers online, and scores of people worldwide tuned in to the live virtual coverage honoring the contributions of The Duke to the Award worldwide.

### Founder's 100

Through our mourning and celebration of the life and legacy of the Duke was borne the Founder's 100 campaign. This 3-year celebration included opportunities for fundraising, mass challenges, awareness campaigns, but overall – the infinite potential of young people. GGYA sought to do its part by participating in activities around the number 100, such as collecting 100 bags of trash at clean-ups, baking 100 cookies, or doing 100 jumping jacks to help raise awareness and encourage more young people to start their Award journey, particularly those from at risk and marginalized backgrounds. We also branded our promotional t-shirts with the "Founder's 100: Infinite potential" logo, to act as a travelling banner and support The Duke's vision for young people in The Bahamas.



## Special Projects: Three Funds Grants

For the fourth time since its inception, GGYA has been awarded a grant from The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation, in the amount of £30,000 (GBP), to allow more at-risk youth, including young people in reform schools and those with greater levels of special educational needs, to participate in the Programme.

The BET (Building Experiences Together) Project aims to reach marginalized youths who are being held back by personal obstacles. Our hope to positively influence overlooked individuals at juvenile detention centres (Willie Mae Pratt and Simpson Penn) and Programme S.U.R.E (Success Ultimately Reassures Everybody), and assist young persons with intellectual challenges (at Stapleton School and The Beacon School) in building self-confidence and finding success at a crucial time in life—when they are shaping their individual identity. With the exception of the Beacon School on Grand Bahama, the four other centers are on New Providence. The programme will be managed by credible Award volunteers specially trained to work with young people in these centers. We are assured that participating in GGYA through these centers can impact their lives

The Award Foundation is convinced that a “good non-formal education is essential to equipping a young person for adult life, and so should be available to everyone.”

Although we have previously had some participants from these areas, for the most part, these at-risk categories of young people remain largely unreached.

We not only required funding, but we also needed to identify Award leaders and volunteers who are ideally committed to our same values, whilst also being embedded in those environments and are willing and able to work with us.

“We were extraordinarily pleased to receive an application from GGYA as we have not funded any projects in The Bahamas since 2010. We were even more pleased to see it approved,” said Melissa Stoakes, the London-based Global Operations Director at The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation.

“A project delivering the Award to young people who face a multitude of challenges is close to our ethos and aim that any young person, despite their situation, can do the Award”.

She added: “The project proposal was one of the strongest we have seen in recent years and will benefit from learning from similar projects around the world, whilst also inspiring and showing others how to deliver the Award in these centres and schools.”

GGYA is now in its 11th anniversary of a bipartisan support by three successive administrations.

In 2010, under the Ingraham Administration, the late Minister of Youth, Sports & Culture, Charles Maynard, created the G.O.L.D. Initiative to help the Programme expand and then sustain its presence on every major island throughout The Bahamas. A major source of funding, this financial support continued under former Prime Minister Perry Christie and now through the Minnis Administration.

Among past and present benefactors are Atlantis, the T.K.Foundation, Cable Cares Foundation, Lyford Cay Foundation, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Social Service and Urban Development, Department of Gender and Family Affairs and BTC.

We want non formal learning opportunities to be available to all young people, especially youth that do not have access to mainstream clubs. GGYA is more than ready to offer these young people a chance to prove that not all learning happens in the classroom and they can continue to excel in other ways.



# 2021 Honors



## Bahamian Among 100 Receive Duke of Edinburgh's Special Coin

*For half a century he championed youth*

Through rain, shine, retirement and a battle with prostate cancer, Captain Henry Curry has helped guide scores of young men through Boys' Brigade and the Governor General's Youth

Award (GGYA) - two programmes that equipped its participants to succeed in life.

Captain Curry is among 100 inspirational volunteers across the globe who received an official commemorative coin celebrating the life and legacy of the Award's patron. The coin was accompanied by a letter of thanks from HRH The Earl of Wessex, Prince Edward - the youngest child of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip.

"Captain Curry has been with us for more than 30 years. He is our longest serving volunteer. He comes to us from St. Barnabas Anglican Church where he leads their 23<sup>rd</sup> Bahamas Company of Boys' Brigade. Both programmes have similar personal and social goals.

"Although many of our volunteers are known for stepping up and staying around, we express our thanks to Captain Curry for his dedication and leadership throughout the decades. He's served on GGYA's Management Council, often among the first to respond when we reach out to our volunteers, and he gets his unit out to many of our planned activities. If every youth organization could have someone like Captain Curry on their team, we'd be better off as a nation".



## Former GGYA head receives MYSC's Living Legend Award

On, October 29th, Denise Mortimer, the former national executive director of the Governor General's Youth Award (GGYA), was announced as the recipient of the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture's (MYSC) 2021 Youth Practitioner's Living Legend Award during a virtual ceremony. She also served as patron of Youth Month, which was observed in October.



"This means people realize GGYA's impact on young people in society and how important it is for them to be involved in non-formal education," said Mortimer, who stepped down as head of the internationally recognized programme in 2020, after 29 years at the helm. "I share this award with the many volunteers that we have had. Without them, we would have not been able to record so many successes. Therefore, it is an honour and a privilege to be recognized in such a way".

When Mortimer assumed the role of director of The Bahamas' Duke of Edinburgh's Award in 1991, there were 151 participants operating through five New Providence-based units supervised by six volunteers. Under her watch, more than 30,000 young people stepped out of their comfort zones to take up the Award's challenge to learn a new skill or develop an existing one, increase their fitness levels, cultivate a sense of adventure and volunteer in their community in order to obtain a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award.



## Treasurer's Report

**January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 – December 31<sup>st</sup> 2021**

Mr. Chairman, fellow trustees, Board members, officers, members and volunteers of the GGYA, we have come to the end of yet another year in the life of the GGYA. The last two years has been a challenging for most of us. However despite the challenges imposed due to the impact of the dreaded Covid -19 virus, we in the GGYA have a lot to be thankful for.

Our various activities were impacted, but our main source of income although impacted negatively remain healthy. Income and expenses for our adventurous journeys were down compared to prior years, but we look forward to better participation this year. There was a slight growth in participants registration over 2020 and we look forward to better results as the restrictions are further relaxed this year.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the Government and our various donors over the last two years. Many thanks to the Lyford cay Foundation for facilitating the purchase of our new office. The purchase of which should be completed in 2022. Work is still being completed on the building.

For the last two years no golf tournament was held, however I am happy to report that during this the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the tournament, we are anticipating an very exciting and fruitful Duke of Edinburg Golf Tournament. The support of all members is solicited to make the event a success.

We also benefitted from a three year matching grant from the International Award foundation in the amount of Thirty thousand pounds, payable over three years, which commenced in 2020 and expires in 2023.

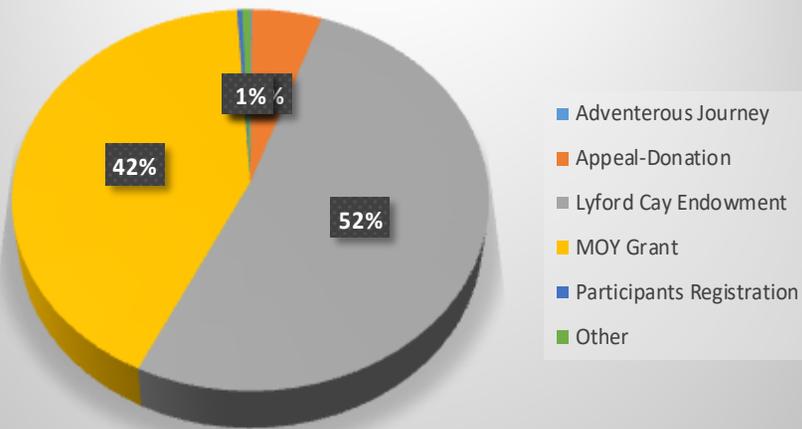
We have a lot to be proud of as we move steadily into 2022, focused and committed to ensuring that our nation youths are empowered and given all the opportunity to be the best they can be.

Sincerely,



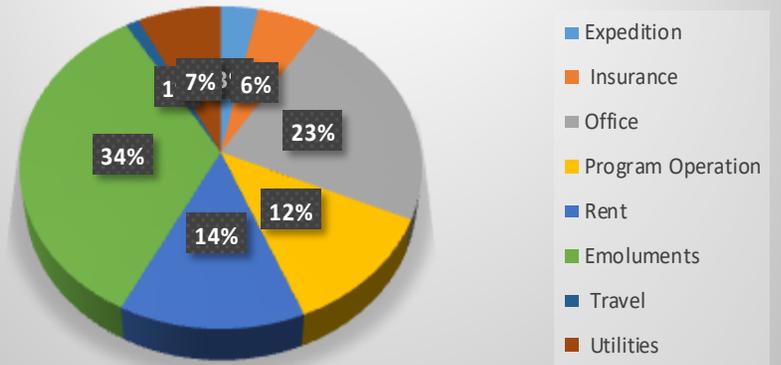
Everette Z. Mackey  
Treasurer

## INCOME



Adventerous Journey	\$ 616.00
Appeal-Donation	\$ 30,154.23
Lyford Cay Endowment	\$ 300,000.00
MOY Grant	\$ 242,696.00
Participants Registration	\$ 2,160.00
Other	\$ 3,580.94
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>\$ 579,207.17</b>

## EXPENSES



Expedition	\$ 8,467.29
Insurance	\$ 14,514.80
Office	\$ 59,175.66
Program Operation	\$ 31,472.02
Rent	\$ 35,618.12
Emoluments	\$ 87,933.72
Travel	\$ 3,125.08
Utilities	\$ 19,084.86
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>\$ 259,391.55</b>
<b>Income/Expense</b>	<b>\$ 319,815.62</b>

## **GGYA Celebrates the Life, Legacy of Founder**

### **HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh dies at 99**

He was a champion of young people worldwide and instrumental in the growth of the Governor's General Youth Award, one of the nation's most popular after school programmes for non-formal education and learning.

Across The Bahamas today, 729 participants, 124 volunteers, 42 units, the national office, council and Board of Trustees marked the passing of His Royal Highness Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh. He was at the Queen's side for more than 60 years. He died at Windsor Castle Friday, April 9th.

Sixty-five years ago, Prince Philip established The Duke of Edinburgh's Award in the United Kingdom. Since then, it's been rolled out in more than 130 countries and territories, empowering millions of young people to build the skills, confidence and resilience they need to support their communities and be ready for the world.

"This is a very sad occasion for us. He left behind a very real legacy in The Bahamas," said Jacquetta Lightbourne-Maycock, GGYA's national director.

"We thrive today because he helped to pave the way. Prince Philip lit a fire in our leadership to attract more and more young people to find their purpose, passion, and place, in the world. We should all seek to emulate his passion for the nation's youth."

The Duke of Edinburgh first visited the programme in 1991. Back then, there were 151 participants spread throughout five New Providence-based units, supervised by six volunteers. Since then, 31,000 young people have passed through GGYA. In normal times, the programme averaged 100 volunteers per year with 56 units serving 11 islands.

In 1996, the programme dropped its original name, The Bahamas Duke of Edinburgh's Award and adopted the moniker, The Governor General's Youth Award to reflect a sense of place and people. Despite this re-branding, strict adherence to the principles and structure set by the International Award Association has always been maintained.

Aside from his 1991 visit, the husband of Queen Elizabeth II toured the youth programme again in 1993, 1998 and 2001. GGYA's former national director, Denise Mortimer was tapped to escort His Royal Highness during those high-profile events.

"When I joined the Award family in 1991, no one ever breathed a word to me that I should be prepared to accompany royalty, so imagine my surprise when six months into my tenure I, someone more comfortable coaching than curtsying, found out I was to escort a member of the Royal Family to Government House and a gala ball," Ms. Mortimer recalled.



“There are seven trillion nerves in the human body. During that first meeting with Prince Philip, it felt like each nerve of mine was on edge. I must confess, the feeling did not last long. His Royal Highness brought laser focused attention to our gatherings. The questions he asked participants displayed a genuine interest. His friendliness amazed me. I was taken aback by his interactions, not just with me, but with all the participants and guests at the ball. Although he was the royal one, Prince Philip made us all feel like VIPs.”

Prince Philip’s passion for the Award programme was contagious. He saw the need for many more young persons throughout The Bahamas to have access to it.

“He helped me to see it too. His Royal Highness impressed upon me the importance of providing a quality programme and valuing our volunteers. It was something that I, in turn, passed on to my successor,” said the former national director.

It was the Duke’s suggestion that GGYA should charter a boat to take the Award participants sailing to other islands of The Bahamas, helping them to learn more about their country.

“The following year we launched the Bahamas Award Scheme Expedition (BASE) which took 75 participants mainly from New Providence to the island of San Salvador as part of the Christopher Columbus centennial celebrations. BASE is now in its 28<sup>th</sup> year,” said Ms Mortimer. “It attracts participants from across The Bahamas to partake in hiking expeditions across our archipelagic nation. We have taken participants to 14 of our Family Islands.”

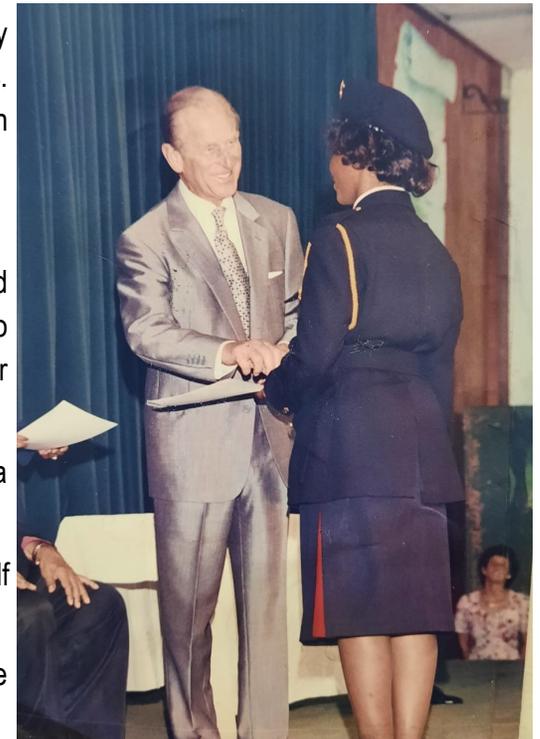
During his final 2001 visit, Prince Philip presented Gold Awards and attended fundraising events.

“This time, I felt as if I was in the company of a trusted mentor. He was the perfect listener, Award promotor and teacher. One always learnt something new in his presence whether it was the latest marketing strategy; how to maintain the quality of the Award; changes in the Award delivery; funding ideas or how to strengthen the volunteer base. His unwavering commitment to our programme certainly aided our phenomenal growth over the years.”

John May, Secretary General of The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award Foundation, hailed Prince Philip as a “thinker of truly global stature.”

“As young people face exceptional challenge and change in the wake of the current pandemic, this ‘do-it-yourself growing-up kit’, as he described it, is even more relevant today than ever.

His Royal Highness’s passion for, and commitment to, the work of the Award and the development of young people continued until the last. His determination, energy and enthusiasm will be greatly missed.”



## New Providence

### Anatol Rodgers High School

Mrs. Charlisa Miller  
Mrs. Shandale Grant  
Mrs. Tenisha Forbes

### Aquinas College

Ms. Renee McSweeney  
Mr. Brian Tappin

### C.C. Sweting Sr. High

Mr. Edwin Johnson  
Mr. Chuck Smith  
Mrs. Lezelye Sands  
Ms. Michelle Dittmar

### C.V. Bethel High School

Mr. Terez Rolle  
Mrs. Gillian Thompson  
Mrs. Rayshell Rolle  
Mr. Travis Hepburn

### C..V. Hart Institute

Mr. Christie Hart  
Mrs. Volona Hart

### Excellence for Higher Learning All Age

Mrs. Shari Green  
Ms. Theresa Roberts

### Kingsway Academy

Ms. Nathalya Pratt  
Ms. Delia Peart  
Ms. Terrel Thompson  
Ms. Rachelle Strachan  
Ms. Marilyn Fagan

### Leadership Academy

Mrs. Ursula Wells

### Lyford Cay International School

Mr. Ian Brooke  
Mr. Milan Durik  
Mr. Timothy Connolly  
Mr. Frederic Bournas  
Mr. Sergio Lopez  
Ms. Lizi Bethel  
Ms. Denize Markham  
Ms. Rose Vu

### Lyford Cay International cont.

Ms. Nichelle Engels  
Mr. Alejandro Peguero  
Mr. David Mindorff  
Ms. Viviane Proffitt  
Mr. Harry Almond  
Ms. Annisa Albury

### Nassau Christian Academy

Mrs. Janice Cameron  
Mrs. Shereen Grey  
Mr. Chedwin Phipps

### Queen's College

Mr. Joshua Purcell  
Mr. Conlife Green

### R.M. Bailey High School

Mrs. Josiane Carty-Floerus  
Mr. Leslie Simon

### RBPF Cadets

Corporal Alexander Brooks

### RBDF Rangers

CPO Kelsey Missick  
LWM Karia Smith

### St. Augustine's College

Mrs. Donna Saunders

### St. Barnabas 23rd Boys Brigade

Mr. Henry Curry

### St. John's College

Mrs. Charlene Cash

### Teleos Christian School

Mrs. Keva Bien

### Temple Christian High School

Ms. Michelle Rolle

### Willimae Pratt School for Girls

Ms. Syneisha Bootle  
Ms. Arvis Mortimer

## Abaco

### S.C. Bootle

Ms. Anya Mills

## Andros

### BAMSI

Ms. Leslie Brace  
Mr. Roman Curry

## Berry Island

### R.N. Gomez Comprehensive School

Mrs. Alamanda Symonette  
Mr. Lester Johnson

## Eleuthera

### Harbour Island All Age School

Ms. Angirece Major  
Ms. Jacyntha Miller  
Mrs. Andrea Peart –Robinson

### North Eleuthera High School

Ms. Dernel Munnings  
Ms. Roxann Williams

### Preston H. Albury High School

Mrs. Tamika Rahming  
Ms. Claudia Wilson  
Mr. Leonardo Butler  
Ms. Anthonise Finley

## Exuma

### L.N. Coakley High School

Ms. Shantell Rolle  
Mr. David King

### St. Andrews Anglican

Mr. Euguena Perrier  
Mrs. Rebbie Dow-Perrier  
Ms. Claynelle Bowles  
Ms. Dwaynisha Henerson

## Grand Bahama

### Alpha Omega Christian

Mrs. Lavender Roberts

### Bishop Michael Eldon High School

Ms. Annika Linton  
Mr. Theodore Hutson  
Ms. Kellie Brown  
Ms. Shayla Hepburn

## Eight Mile Rock High School

Mrs. Magdalene Mills  
Mr. Meltheo Wells

## Jack Hayward Sr. High School

Ms. Rochelle Anderson  
Mr. David Thompson  
Mr. Robert Nabb

## Lucaya International School

Dr. Sylvia Bateman  
Mrs. Linda Rahming  
Mrs. Heather Oxley  
Mr. Jamie Halpin

## Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Academy

Ms. Camya Hanna  
Mr. Ravindra Doodnauth  
Mr. Sekou Touse

## St. George's High School

Mr. Keith Saunders  
Mr. Clayton Newman  
Ms. Patrice McPhee  
Mrs. Canovia Ferguson

## Sunland Baptist Academy

Mrs. Kimberley Campbell

## Tabernacle Baptist Christian Academy

Mr. Clifton Francis  
Ms. Whitney Armbrister

## The Beacon School

Mrs. Anneathera Saunders  
Mrs. Juanita Gaitor  
Mrs. Jynda Bain  
Ms. Rena Bonaby  
Ms. Helen Roxbury  
Ms. Rochelle Clarke  
Mrs. Cheryl Hurst  
Ms. Antoinette Lewis

## Inagua

### Inagua All Age School

Ms. Simone Murphy  
Ms. Jewel Munnings  
Mr. Deon Williams  
Ms. Gaynell Higgs

## Long Island

### N.G.M Major High School

Mrs. Kimberly Cartwright  
Mr. Anselm Chea  
Ms. Cathy Cartwright  
Ms. Michelle Clarke  
Ms. Sandra Marshall



### **GGYA Staff:**

#### **New Providence**

##### **Consultant**

Ms. Denise Mortimer (January - June)

##### **Office Administrator**

Mrs. Alicia Owens-Newton

##### **Grand Bahama Part-time Office Assistant:**

Mr. Keith Saunders

### **Family Island Coordinators:**

#### **Central & South Eleuthera**

Mr. Hilbert Richards Jr.

#### **North Eleuthera/Harbour Island/ Spanish Wells**

Ms. Lucy Longley

### **Training Team**

Chief P/O Lawson Clarke (retired)

P/O Omar Albury

Mrs. Jacquetta Maycock, ORB

### **New Providence**

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### **Grand Bahama**

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### **Adventurous Journey Panel Members**

P/O Omar Albury

Ms. Syneisha Bootle

Corporal Alexander Brooks

Police Reserve WASP Deanne Cooper

P/O Javier Forbes

Mr. Clifton Francis, Grand Bahama

L/M Kevin Hall

Ms, Darisha Johnson

Ms. Vivienne Missick

Ms. Alicia Morrison

Mr. William Mortimer

Mr. Lamar Pinder

Mrs. Jacquetta Maycock

Patrice McPhee, Grand Bahama

Mr. Keith Saunders, Grand Bahama

Mrs. Donna Saunders, Coordinator

Jacquetta Maycock, Advisor

### **Acknowledgements:**

Atlantis

Bahamas Business Solutions

Bahamas Feeding Network

Bahamas Independent Secondary Schools Principals' Association

Bahamas Red Cross

Bahamas National Trust

Bahamas Waste Limited

Bookworld & Stationers

Cable Cares Foundation

Courtesy Private Charters & Tours

Cyber GMS

D.C. Technology

Eye Witness News

Family Islands Local Government

Gippy's Printing

Government Secondary Schools Principals' Association

International Award Foundation Special Projects Three Funds Grants

J.S. Johnson Insurance Company Limited

Kelly's Home Centre, Ltd.

Lend a Hand

Lewis Foundation

Lyford Cay Foundation

Ministry of Education, and Technical and Vocational Training

Ministry of Health and Wellness

Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development

Ministry of Youth, Sports & Culture

Munson Shipping

National Accreditation and Equivalency Council of The Bahamas

National Emergency Management Agency

Precision Media

Royal Bank of Canada

Royal Bahamas Defence Force

Royal Bahamas Police Force

Sign Island

St. John's College

Superclubs Breezes

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The Morning Show

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