

Communications Update



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BARBUDA**
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YOU CAN HELP! **COVID-19 CHARITABLE FUNDRAISER**

Initiative of the Antigua and Barbuda High Commission (U.K.)
and the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority

Support four charitable causes in Antigua and Barbuda as they continue the fight. We are appealing to Antiguan and Barbudans abroad and friends of Antigua and Barbuda to help the children and the aged.

DONATE TODAY



This project is supported by the Caucus of Antigua and Barbuda Ambassadors and Honorary Consuls in Europe.



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA HIGH COMMISSION
LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

23 July 2020

Thank You!

The dreaded COVID-19 pandemic continues to negatively impact the lives of many vulnerable individuals across the world. Antigua and Barbuda, like most other nations of the world, is adapting to a new reality which includes the rise of a social care crisis. As a result, there is the need for charitable assistance now more than ever with so many, young and old, struggling to meet their basic needs. This also extends to philanthropic organisations who play a leading role in social care in the communities across the twin-island state. As such, the Halo Foundation and the Caucus of Antigua and Barbuda Ambassadors and Honorary Consuls in Europe launched this charitable effort so that you can help us to support the operations of charitable organisations during this critical time.

Particularly, through your kind and generous donations, the "You Can Help!" project supports four (4) causes in Antigua and Barbuda as they continue to keep their doors open to those in need of assistance. We appealed to Antiguan and Barbudans abroad and friends of Antigua and Barbuda to help vulnerable youth and the aged. Moreover, our mission is to raise £145,000 to cover the major expenses of these four (4) charities. It is predicted that charities will struggle for at least the next 12 months as the Antigua and Barbuda economy struggles to recover from economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Therefore, we thank you for the incredible assistance towards such a worthy cause at this time. We hope that we can continue to partner with you to fulfil our mission.

Here are the chosen charitable organisations which we support through your kind assistance:



The Sunshine Home For Girls

Opened in 1992, this is a safe and caring home for girls up to the age of 18 who have been physically or sexually abused, or who have been abandoned or orphaned. The facility accommodates a maximum of 12 girls, who have been protected and nurtured even from the tender age of 6.



The Ex-Servicemen's Association

The Association (formed in 2004) provides food and medical assistance to the 6 living ex-soldiers and widows who voluntarily enlisted and valiantly fought in the 1939-1945 conflict (World War II) as part of the British Colonial Territories. Currently, the needs of 8 retired soldiers from the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force are also met.



The St. Vincent de Paul Society (Holy Family Conference)

This Society (a branch of the organization originally founded in France in 1833) operates a Day Care Centre for the elderly where they are provided with professional attention. Additionally, their "Meals on Wheels" programme distributes 50 hot meals daily to the shut-ins.



The Grace Programme

This initiative is executed by the Ministry of Social Transformation and caters to 300-400 elderly and differently-abled citizens across the nation. The programme has been operational since 1987 and is committed to providing dietary and social care on a regular basis. They need your help now. Donate today through the Patron organization, the Halo Foundation Inc. Together, we can ease the burden and pain in so many lives.

Project Partners



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA HIGH COMMISSION
LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM



The Halo Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organisation which seeks to improve the welfare, education, and well-being of the vulnerable in Antigua and Barbuda and across the Caribbean.



The Antigua & Barbuda Tourism Authority



Caucus of Antigua and Barbuda
Ambassadors and Honorary
Consuls in Europe



Press Update

First Support Cheques Handed Over To Local Charities

21 July 2020

Three local charities were recently presented with cheques of \$8,000 each in the first quarterly distribution of funds raised under the "You Can Help!" campaign. The handover was executed by H.E. Sir Rodney Williams, Governor-General and Patron of the Halo Foundation and Hon. E.P. Chet Greene, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Immigration, and Trade. The beneficiary non-profit organisations are the Sunshine Home for Girls, The Ex-Servicemen's Association and the St. Vincent de Paul Society (Holy Family Conference). The funds raised will be used to assist in covering the major expenses of these charities, as they struggle to meet operational costs.

The special project was launched by the Antigua and Barbuda High Commission (London), with the purpose of engaging the diaspora and friends of Antigua and Barbuda in Europe to aid charities likely to be heavily impacted by reduced donor contributions in light of COVID-19. The project is supported by the Halo Foundation Inc., and the Caucus of Antigua and Barbuda Ambassadors and Honorary Consuls in Europe.

The campaign commenced approximately 10 weeks ago, and to date, approximately £20,000 has been raised from a £145,000 target. According to Antigua and Barbuda's High Commissioner in the U.K., H.E. Karen-Mae Hill, "We are extremely pleased that our Ambassadors in Greece and Spain and our Honorary Consuls in Bulgaria, Bavaria and Russia, have all agreed to unite around this cause as one of the projects the Caucus will support. I wish to thank Ambassador Dario Item, Ambassador Jihad Aoun, and Honorary Consuls Wolfgang Altmueller, Professor Dr Ivan Todorov and Julien Hansen. The project also benefits from the proven experience and generous support of H.E. Lady Williams and the Halo Foundation Inc., in its conception and delivery."

Public Relations Officer for the Ex-Servicemen's Association, Paul Quinn, commented: "We would like to express our gratitude to the Antigua and Barbuda High Commission and the Halo Foundation for this effort to support the needy and vulnerable in Antigua and Barbuda, and we are happy to be chosen as one of the recipients. The donation will go towards assisting Ex-Servicemen and the widows of those who have passed."

Administrator of the Salvation Army Sunshine Home for Girls, Major Barbara Forrester said: "Debts of gratitude are never paid — they are merely acknowledged. We are extremely thankful for your continuous interest and donations. You make us feel special and blessed. Thanks for following through with your promise. We do appreciate your efforts, especially in a time like this. The COVID-19 pandemic has taken a toll on the world's economy. We know that it is a great sacrifice to generate funds, but I want to assure you that this money will go a long way in helping with our financial situation."



H.E. Sir Rodney Williams, Governor-General (left), Major Barbara Forrester, Administrator of the Salvation Army Sunshine Home for Girls (centre), and Hon. E.P. Chet Green, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Immigration, and Trade (right)



H.E. Sir Rodney Williams, Governor-General (left), Mr Pagget Messiah (Chairman) and Mr. Johnson Browne (President) of the Ex-Servicemen's Association (centre), and Hon. E.P. Chet Green, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Immigration, and Trade (right)



H.E. Sir Rodney Williams, Governor-General (left), Lilian Hynes, President of the SSVP Holy Family Conference (centre), and Hon. E.P. Chet Green, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Immigration, and Trade (right)

Project launched to help local charities

The Antigua and Barbuda High Commission (UK) and the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority (ABTA) have launched a special project to engage the diaspora and friends of Antigua and Barbuda in Europe to aid four charities likely to be heavily impacted by reduced donor contributions in light of Covid-19.

The beneficiaries will be the Sunshine Home for Girls, the Ex-Servicemen's Association, the St Vincent de Paul Society (Holy Family Conference), and the Grace Programme. The funds raised will be used to assist in covering the major expenses of these four charities.

It is predicted that the charities will struggle to meet their operational costs at an optimum level for at least the next 12 months, as the local and global economies seek to recover from the fallout caused by the pandemic.

The project is supported by the Ministry of Social Transformation, the Halo Foundation Inc, and the Caucus of Antigua and Barbuda Ambassadors and Honorary Consuls in Europe.

"Nationals and friends of Antigua and Barbuda have shown a keen interest to help. This project provides a platform through which this assistance can be channelled," a release from the High Commission said.

"We are extremely

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Support four charitable causes in Antigua and Barbuda as they continue the fight. We are appealing to Antiguan and Barbudans abroad and friends of Antigua and Barbuda to help the children and the aged.

DONATE TODAY

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 FOUNDATION FOR THE NEEDY

This project is supported by the Caucus of Antigua and Barbuda Ambassadors and Honorary Consuls in Europe.

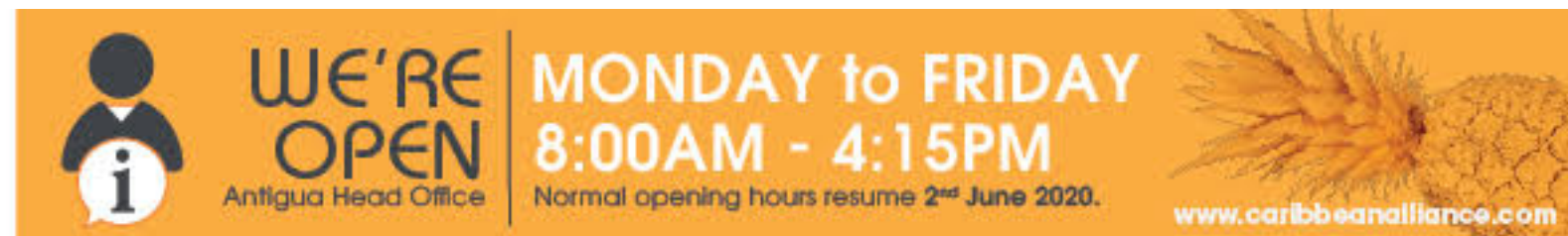
pleased that our Ambassadors in Greece and Spain and our Honorary Consuls in Bulgaria, Bavaria and Russia have all agreed to unite around this cause."

It added that the project also benefits from the prov-

en experience and generous support of the Halo Foundation, an umbrella charity run by local volunteers.

"We express our sympathies to those who have lost loved ones and stand in solidarity with those who are

apprehensive about the future. As Antigua and Barbuda looks to the months and years ahead, we are confident that together we possess the will and the skills needed to rebuild our country," the release concluded.



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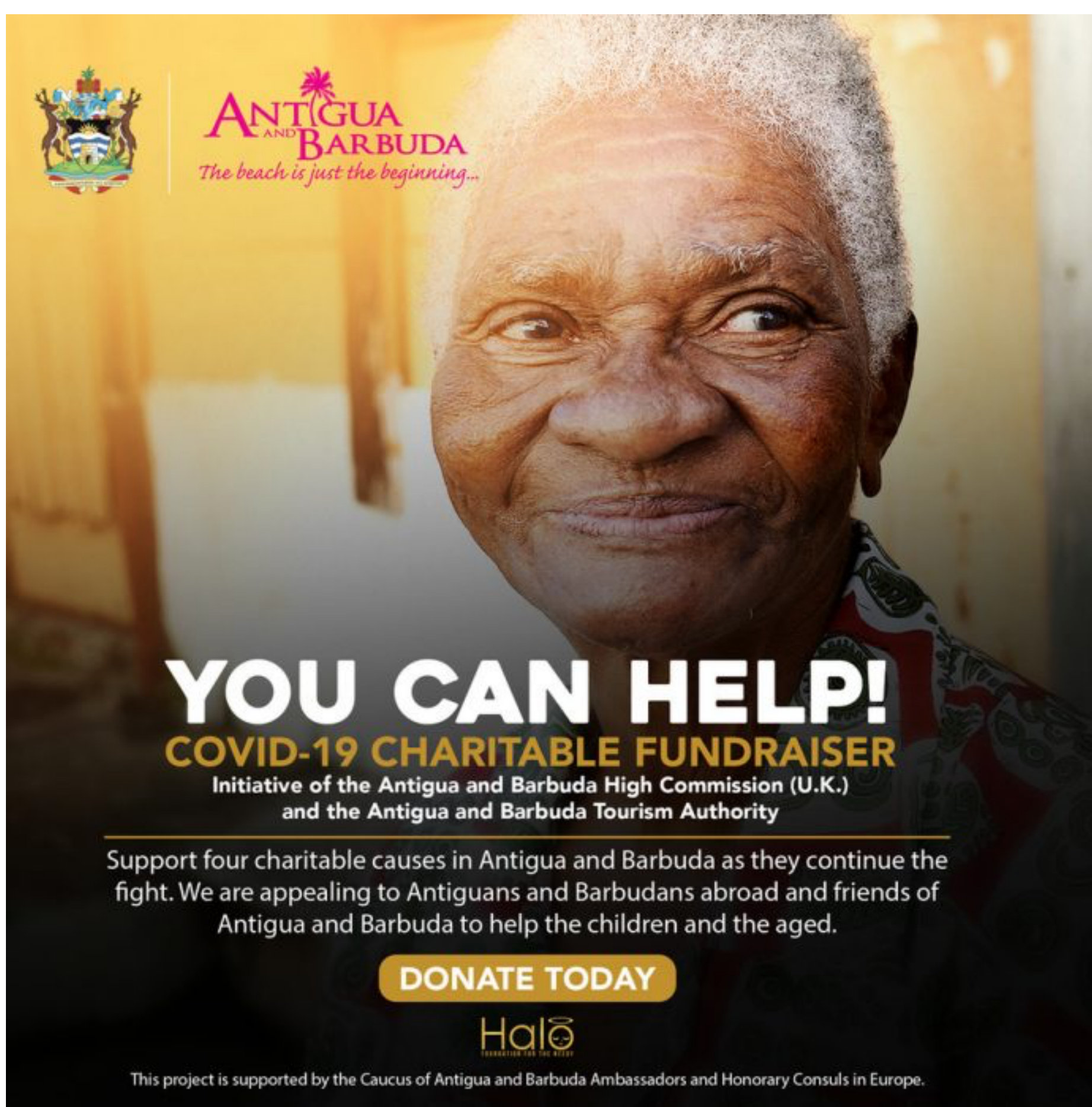
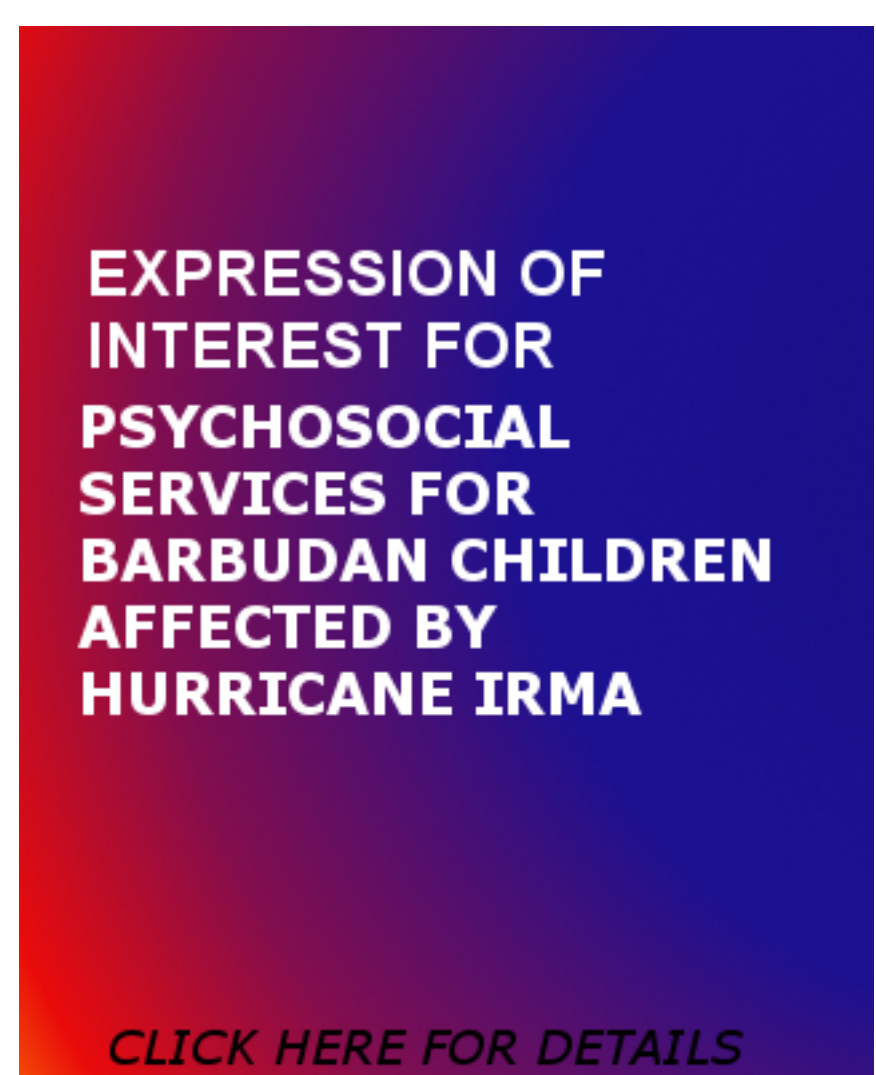
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COVID-19 Charitable Fundraiser Initiative Of The Antigua and Barbuda High Commission (UK) And The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority

April 28, 2020

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICES FOR BARBUDAN CHILDREN AFFECTED BY HURRICANE IRMA

The Antigua and Barbuda High Commission (UK) and the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority have launched a special project to engage the diaspora and friends of Antigua and Barbuda in Europe to aid four charities likely to be heavily impacted by reduced donor contributions in light of COVID-19.

The project is supported by the Ministry of Social Transformation, the Halo Foundation Inc., and the Caucus of Antigua and Barbuda Ambassadors and Honorary Consuls in Europe.

The Sunshine Home for Girls, The Ex-Servicemen's Association, the St. Vincent de Paul Society (Holy Family Conference), and the Grace Programme will be the beneficiaries.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICES FOR BARBUDAN CHILDREN AFFECTED BY HURRICANE IRMA

The funds raised will be used to assist in covering the major expenses of these four charities. It is predicted that the charities will struggle to meet their operational costs at an optimum level for at least the next 12 months, as the local and global economies seek to recover from the fallout caused by the pandemic.

Nationals and Friends of Antigua and Barbuda have shown a keen interest to help. This project provides a platform through which this assistance can be channelled.

We are extremely pleased that our Ambassadors in Greece and Spain and our Honorary Consuls in Bulgaria, Bavaria and Russia, have all agreed to unite around this cause as one of the projects the Caucus will support. The project also benefits from the proven experience and generous support of the Halo Foundation, Inc. (an umbrella charity run by volunteers and registered under the laws of Antigua and Barbuda) in its conception and delivery.

We express our sympathies to those who have lost loved ones and stand in solidarity with those who are apprehensive about the future.

As Antigua and Barbuda looks to the months and years ahead, we are confident that together we possess the will and the skills needed to rebuild our country.



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Local charities receive donations

Three local charities have received cheques of \$8,000.00 each in the first quarterly distribution of funds raised under the “You Can Help!” campaign.

Governor General and Patron of the Halo Foundation, Sir Rodney Williams, and Minister of Foreign Affairs, E. P. Chet Greene, took part in the handing over ceremony.

Benefitting from the funds are the Sunshine Home for Girls, the Ex-Servicemen’s Association and the St. Vincent de Paul Society (Holy Family Conference). The funds raised will be used to assist in covering the major expenses of these charities, as they struggle to meet their operational costs.

The special project was launched by the Antigua and Barbuda High Commission in London with the purpose of engaging the diaspora and friends of Anti-



(L-R) H.E. Sir Rodney Williams; Mr. Pagget Messiah (Chairman) and Mr. Johnson Browne (President) of the Ex-Servicemen’s Association, and Hon. Paul Chet Greene

gua and Barbuda in Europe to aid charities likely to be heavily impacted by reduced donor contributions in light of COVID-19. The project is supported by the Halo Foundation Inc., and the Caucus of Antigua and Barbuda Ambassadors and Honorary Consuls in Europe.

The campaign commenced approximately 10 weeks ago and, to date,

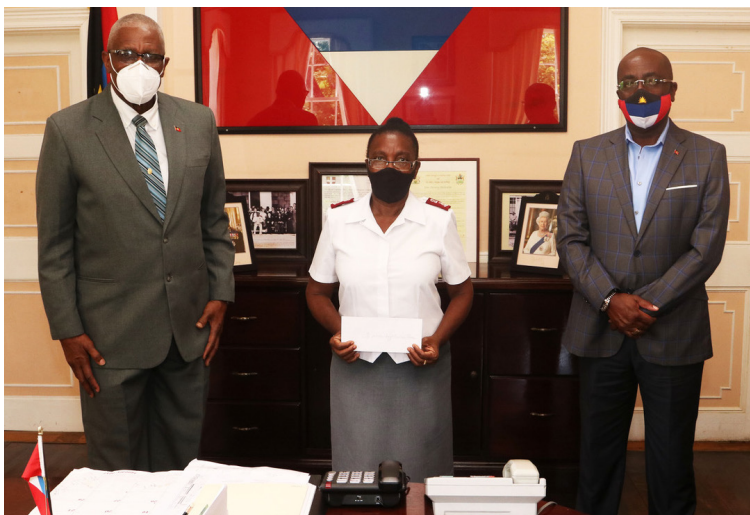
approximately £20,000 has been raised of a £145,000 target.

“We are extremely pleased that our Ambassadors in Greece and Spain and our Honorary Consuls in Bulgaria, Bavaria and Russia, have all agreed to unite around this cause as one of the projects the Caucus will support. The project also benefits from the proven experience

and generous support of Lady Williams and the Halo Foundation, Inc. in its conception and delivery,” commented Antigua and Barbuda’s High Commissioner in the UK, Karen-Mae Hill.

Public Relations Officer for the Ex-Servicemen’s Association, Paul Quinn, commented, “We would like to express our gratitude to the Antigua and Barbuda High Commission and the Halo Foundation for this effort to support the needy and vulnerable in Antigua and Barbuda, and we are happy to be chosen as one of the recipients. The donation will go towards assisting Ex-Servicemen and the widows of those who have passed.”

Administrator of the Salvation Army Sunshine Home for Girls, Major Barbara Forrester, said, “Debts of gratitude are never paid, they are merely acknowledged.”



H.E. Sir Rodney Williams (left) and Hon. Paul Chet Greene (right) with Major Barbara Forrester, Administrator of the Salvation Army Sunshine Home for Girls



H.E. Sir Rodney Williams (left) and Hon. Paul Chet Greene (right) with Lilian Hynes, President of the SSVP Holy Family Conference



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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICES FOR BARBUDAN CHILDREN AFFECTED BY HURRICANE IRMA

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First Support Cheques Handed Over To Local Charities

July 21, 2020

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:

PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICES FOR BARBUDAN CHILDREN AFFECTED BY HURRICANE IRMA

Three local charities were recently presented with cheques of \$8,000 each in the first quarterly distribution of funds raised under the “You Can Help!” campaign. The handover was executed by H.E. Sir Rodney Williams, Governor General and Patron of the Halo Foundation and Hon. Paul Chet Greene, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Immigration and Trade. The beneficiary non-profit organisations are the Sunshine Home for Girls, The Ex-Servicemen’s Association and the St. Vincent de Paul Society (Holy Family Conference). The funds raised will be used to assist in covering the major expenses of these charities, as they struggle to meet operational costs.

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:

PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICES FOR BARBUDAN CHILDREN AFFECTED BY HURRICANE IRMA

The campaign commenced approximately 10 weeks ago and to date, approximately £20,000 has been raised from a £145,000 target. According to Antigua and Barbuda’s High Commissioner in the UK, H.E. Karen-Mae Hill, “We are extremely pleased that our Ambassadors in Greece and Spain and our Honorary Consuls in Bulgaria, Bavaria and Russia, have all agreed to unite around this cause as one of the projects the Caucus will support. I wish to thank Ambassador Dario Item, Ambassador Jihad Aoun, and Honorary Consuls Wolfgang Altmueller, Professor Dr. Ivan Todorov and Julien Hansen. The project also benefits from the proven experience and generous support of H.E. Lady Williams and the Halo Foundation, Inc. in its conception and delivery.”

Public Relations Officer for the Ex-Servicemen’s Association, Paul Quinn, commented : “We would like to express our gratitude to the Antigua and Barbuda High Commission and the Halo Foundation for this effort to support the needy and vulnerable in Antigua and Barbuda, and we are happy to be chosen as one of the recipients. The donation will go towards assisting Ex-Servicemen and the widows of those who have passed.”

Administrator of the Salvation Army Sunshine Home for Girls, Major Barbara Forrester said: “Debts of gratitude are never paid — they are merely acknowledged. We are extremely thankful for your continuous interest and donations. You make us feel special and blessed. Thanks for following through with your promise. We do appreciate your efforts, especially in a time like this. The Covid-19 pandemic has taken a toll on the world’s economy. We know that it is a great sacrifice to generate funds, but I want to assure you that this money will go a long way in helping with our financial situation.”

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actual enforcement but we can discipline the person in terms of their public service permit which they obtained from us and sanction them,

but the police would have to apprehend," Jarvis explained.

Consequently, he said that the Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority

should be the initial point of contact in the effort to resolve the matter.

The next step, Jarvis said, would be that the taxi drivers

"should bring the evidence to the Transport Board so that we can revoke their permits or something of the sort".

Man jailed for sex with 'girlfriend', 13

A 21-year-old has been sentenced to a year in jail for having unlawful sexual intercourse with a 13-year-old girl who was reportedly his girlfriend.

Gray's Farm resident was sentenced by Justice Iain Morley on Monday after he pleaded guilty to the offence.

The convict reportedly met the complainant in March 2019 and, according to the young girl, he was her

boyfriend.

The facts of the case as presented in court state that on the evening of May 22 2019, the man invited the girl to a house. There, in the bedroom, he began to touch the child intimately.

The girl then laid back on the bed and the convict joined her and began to unbutton her pants. She rebuttoned them but he unbuttoned them again, before removing her

pants and underwear and proceeding to have sex with her.

When the victim arrived home, she was asked about her whereabouts and confessed what had happened.

A report was made to Gray's Farm Police Station and the minor was examined.

The man was subsequently charged with the offence which carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

The convict claimed he didn't know that the girl was 13 years old, nor that she was still in school.

The judge considered several factors and concluded that the man should spend 12 months in jail, a portion of which was reduced as he had pleaded guilty.

He had already spent six months on remand, and will therefore only have to spend two months in prison.

Man admits to throwing 'tea bush and food' over prison wall

By Latrishka Thomas

A man has admitted to tossing items over the prison walls which, according to him, were tea bush and a container of vegetarian food.

Akeil Burnham was

caught on Coronation Road on April 28 after throwing a bag of items over a wall.

He was subsequently arrested and charged with conveying with the intent that it should come in possession of a prisoner, possession of 45.5

grams of cannabis and beating a constable.

He pleaded not guilty to the two latter charges claiming that the drugs were not thrown over by him and that the officer in question charged him with battery because he fell and "say I have to pay for his uniform".

The man, who appeared unrepresented yesterday in St John's Magistrates' Court, also claimed that he was hired by someone to throw the pre-packaged items over the wall.

The prosecution did not accept his not guilty pleas and Chief Magistrate Joanne

Walsh therefore set Burnham's trial date for October 28.

The case was among those to come before the court on Monday.

Also appearing was Christian Hope, of Wireless Road, who was fined \$4,000 for possession of 157.8 grams of cannabis.

On July 19, police executing a search warrant at Hope's home found three bags of the controlled drug valued at \$1,578.

The man was given until October 20 to pay off the fine or he will spend five months behind bars.

Timely donation for King Swallow

Minister of Health Molwyn Joseph has presented a wheelchair to popular calypso icon, Sir Rupert "King Swallow" Philo.

One of Sir Rupert's daughters accepted the donation – from the Ministry of Health – on behalf of her father, who has been unwell for some time.

"Sir Rupert has many friends and fans and has earned their respect and admiration," Joseph said during the presentation.

He noted that he "considers Sir Rupert a dear friend of many years" and is humbled to be in a position for his ministry to assist in any way possible.



Photo courtesy Ministry of Health

Minister Joseph invited Antiguan and Barbudans to keep Sir Rupert in their prayers.

Local charities receive support cheques

Three local charities were each presented with \$8,000 cheques in the first quarterly distribution of funds raised under the "You Can Help!" campaign.

According to a release, Sir Rodney Williams, Governor General and Patron of the Halo Foundation, and Minister of Foreign Affairs Chet Greene made the presenta-

tions to the Sunshine Home for Girls, the Ex-Servicemen's Association, and the St Vincent de Paul Society (Holy Family Conference).

The monies will be used to assist in covering the charities' operational costs.

The special project was launched by the Antigua and Barbuda High Commission (London), with the purpose

of engaging the diaspora and friends of Antigua and Barbuda in Europe to aid charities likely to be heavily impacted by reduced donor contributions in light of Covid-19.

The project is supported by the Halo Foundation Inc, and the Caucus of Antigua and Barbuda Ambassadors and Honorary Consuls in Europe, the release added.

The campaign commenced approximately 10 weeks ago and to date, approximately £20,000 has been raised from a £145,000 target.

"We are extremely pleased that our ambassadors in Greece and Spain and our honorary consuls in Bulgaria, Bavaria and Russia, have all agreed to unite around this cause as one of the projects the caucus will support," Antigua and Barbuda's High Commissioner in the UK, HE Karen-Mae Hill said.

"I wish to thank Ambassador Dario Item, Ambassador Jihad Aoun, and honorary consuls Wolfgang Altmueller, Professor Dr Ivan Todorov and Julien Hansen. The project also benefits from the proven experience and generous support of



From left, Sir Rodney Williams, Administrator of the Salvation Army Sunshine Home for Girls Major Barbara Forrester, and Minister Paul Chet Greene. (Photos courtesy Halo Foundation)



From left, Sir Rodney Williams, Chairman of the Ex-Servicemen's Association Paget Messiah, President of the Ex-Servicemen's Association Johnson Browne, and Chet Greene, Minister of Foreign Affairs

HE Lady Williams and the Halo Foundation, Inc in its conception and delivery."

During the presentation,

representatives of the charities expressed gratitude for the donations.

"We would like to ex-

press our gratitude to the Antigua and Barbuda High Commission and the Halo Foundation for this effort to support the needy and vulnerable in Antigua and Barbuda, and we are happy to be chosen as one of the recipients.

"The donation will go towards assisting ex-servicemen and the widows of those who have passed," Public Relations Officer for the Ex-Servicemen's Association, Paul Quinn, said.

Also, the Administrator of the Salvation Army Sunshine Home for Girls, Major Barbara Forrester remarked that "debts of gratitude are never paid — they are merely acknowledged. We are extremely thankful for your continuous interest and donations. You make us feel special and blessed. Thanks for following through with your promise. We do appreciate your efforts, especially in a time like this. The Covid-19 pandemic has taken a toll on the world's economy. We know that it is a great sacrifice to generate funds, but I want to assure you that this money will go a long way in helping with our financial situation."

A hand up



Members of the Antigua State College Circle K International (ASC CKI) club recently distributed 70 packages to families within the six parishes in Antigua who have been challenged financially by the Covid-19 crisis. The project was made possible with help from the public who donated funds and non-perishable goods, and Anjo Wholesale which donated a number of items to the cause. (Photos courtesy ASC CKI)