



## CARIBBEAN REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

<b>Belize</b>	<b>Belize City</b> <b>Email: bzeywca@yahoo.com</b>
<b>HIV education and outreach</b>	Conduct sexual and reproductive health education efficiently and effectively, increase awareness of HIV and AIDS in the community at large through existing programmes, organize advocacy activities related to HIV and AIDS on behalf of women and girls, resume an outreach programme in Gales Point/Manatee working with women and youth in the village In Belize City and Gales Point the YWCA reaches more than 1,000 people per year through its programmes and sees the need to carry out awareness raising with this group as well as to advocate on a national scale on the issue of HIV prevalence. HIV infection rate in adults in Belize is 2.4%, the highest in Central America, and HIV and AIDS is the fourth leading cause of death in the country. A programme coordinator is designing sessions for the YWCA's Helping Early Leavers Programme (an alternative educational programme for girls aged 13-18), and is introducing age-appropriate lessons for the YWCA's pre-school and daycare students. Sessions on HIV and AIDS awareness raising are also being carried out as part of the YWCA's ESL and literacy programmes, and with the YWCA's Senior and Youth groups.
<b>Belize</b>	<b>Belize City</b> <b>Email: bzeywca@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Literacy and education</b>	In Belize, many young women are unable to finish their formal education due to teenage pregnancy or illiteracy. In order to meet the needs of girls who have finished primary school but do not have the required educational background to undertake secondary schooling or job skills for employment, the YWCA provides Helping Early School Leavers programme. The programme includes academic education in mathematics, English and reading, as well as life skills training focussed on improving self esteem, health care, overcoming peer pressure, self expression and drug education. The programme also provides an opportunity to develop vocational skills in areas of interest, as well as a formal counselling component. In the previous year, 64% of students were single mothers and 75% were illiterate when beginning the programme. All students are now either continuing education or have commenced employment.
<b>Grenada</b>	<b>St. George's</b> <b>Email: ywcagrenada@spiceisle.com</b>
<b>Hurricane recovery</b>	In September 2004 Hurricane Ivan destroyed 90% of Grenada's buildings and killed 39 people. The YWCA together with the rest of the country is still working to rebuild and redevelop.
<b>Guyana</b>	<b>Georgetown</b> <b>Email: ywcagy@yahoo.com</b>
<b>West Coast Berbice Food Processing and Preservation</b>	Develop the vocational and business skills necessary for YWCA women from an economically depressed area to develop self-sustaining businesses The development of marketable skills has lead to the creation of sustainable employment for a core group of women in West Coast Berbice, a depressed area of Guyana. 20 members of the West Coast Berbice YWCA have begun manufacturing bottled green seasonings and sweet and regular achar (a condiment), and preserving fruits. From March leading up to the launching, the women received training in marketing, accounting and budgeting. is also planned. Weekly production leading up to the Christmas period was at 2,000 bottles of seasonings; 1,000 packages of achar; and 5,000 pounds of preserved fruits. The women also plan to target markets in Georgetown and the New Guyana Marketing Corporation (NGMC) will also be considering overseas orders. The women currently work out of the bottom flat of a member's house, but hope to occupy their own building soon.
<b>Guyana</b>	<b>Georgetown</b> <b>Email: ywcagy@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Information Technology Education Initiative</b>	To ensure women are given equal opportunity to learn computer skills by providing training in information technology to children and young women, and providing an internet cafe. The current IT training programme has been increased and the classroom renovated to provide 13 workstations with network connection. Staff have been trained to give courses in the Linux computer system for children. The school programmes for children include information on HIV and AIDS as an e-learning course. Computer classes for young women have been set up following four 2-day workshops for 40 women aged 17 to 30 on information technology. The internet cafe attracts more participants and serves as an income generating activity to ensure long-term sustainability.



World YWCA

## CARIBBEAN REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

<b>Trinidad &amp; Tobago</b>	<b>Port of Spain</b> <b>Email:</b> nywcatt@tstt.net.tt
<b>Women and Development Fund (WDF) Life Skills Certification</b>	Training adults in leadership skills The YWCA of Trinidad and Tobago had scheduled a pilot leadership training programme for late 2005 for which corporate sponsorship has been sought. In order to run the programme a YWCA staff member received training in the life skills model of education - theory and techniques - and communication skills, goal setting, conflict resolution, managing change and handling stress. As well as teaching the participants of the leadership development programme, the trained staff person is now training other members/staff of the YWCA in running leadership programmes.