

Massive book distribution

By Phillip Green

On Thursday, August 30, Palmyra Resort and Spa distributed books to infant schools at the Montego Bay Infant School. The Palmyra Foundation, a non-profit charity organisation dedicated to providing educational materials to the children of St. James and which has raised \$4,400,000 since the official launch on June 26, 2007, donated and distributed books to the first of 500 of an estimated 2,000 children. This marks the first of 12 such distributions.

According to Chairperson Kathi Constanzo, the Foundation is sincerely dedicated to giving back to the community, helping the children of Jamaica by attempting to provide every child with a text book.

"We have implemented a self-imposed annual audit on our foundation by Deloitte and Touche and our budget enables us to supply all Infant Public School and Public Infant departments in St. James," Constanzo disclosed.

The audit, she noted, will ensure their sponsors that 'every dollar' that is donated will go directly

to the children, in providing them with educational tools. And this was made possible because of the generous donation from the Palmyra Resort and Spa which is covering all of the operating expenses.

"Eleven infant schools and infant departments benefited from this morning's distribution. As aware-

ness grows, we will grow our foundation and the ultimate goal is to be able to help all the public school children in St. James totalling in excess of 40,000 children," she further disclosed.

According to their Mission Statement, Palmyra Foundation is dedicated to the objective of providing every child of St. James

with the financial support, (in the form of all required textbook being supplied without charge) to attain a proper education.

Its Core Values are: (1) commitment to the school children of St. James (2) focusing on child development through education (3) promoting community service and (4) promoting

a positive outlook and enhancing self esteem.

The interest of the foundation is to encourage the youth of Jamaica, to get their education by making it more affordable and therefore more accessible while promoting hope, a positive outlook and prosperity for the betterment of not only themselves, but

for the beautiful country of Jamaica.

The 11 schools that benefited are Bickersteth Infant Department, Cambridge Infant School, Catherine Hall Infant Department, Chatsworth Infant Department, Goodwill Infant Department, Green Pond Infant Department, Montego Bay Infant School, Mt. Horeb Infant Department, Providence Heights Infant School, Somerton Infant Department and Vaughansfield Infant Department.



CHECK LIST: Chairperson Kathi Constanzo (2nd from right) and Naina Lawson - teacher (left), consulting with parents while scanning the names on the check list.

Phillip Green Photo