



BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL 2015 FINAL REPORT

“ Family, the Little Church”

Overview: The Bishop's Annual Appeal (BAA) for 2015 focused on initiatives by the Family & Life Commission to assist families with the challenges they face in a changing society, under the theme, “Family the little Church”. The initiatives outlined in the BAA 2015 brochure are ongoing and will span a few years.

1. Cultivate competent parenting and family management skills through Parenting Workshops.

- This was the first ‘parenting’ workshop undertaken by the Commission to kick-start the initiatives of the Bishop's Annual Appeal 2015. Two sessions were held on 21st and 22nd March, 2015. Approximately 35 persons attended each session.
- Thirteen participants took part in the second ‘Parenting’ workshop that was held at the Parfaite Harmonie community on 16th April, 2016.



- The third session was held St. Joseph, Diamond on 5th May, 2015 as a part of a Day of Life Events and was attend by 75 participants.
- Another was held in a day of life events for 5th June, 2016 at the St. Peter's church, BV and were for the parishes of the East Coast Demerara.

2. Facilitate Parent Internet Safety & Awareness workshops within the Virtus Programme. The aim of this workshop is to share and discuss with parents key information about safe Internet practices for children while online.

A three-hour workshop attended by 35 persons. was held on Saturday 6th June, 2015 at the Catholic Life Centre. The members of the commission were the facilitators and the presentations were well received, some of the topics discussed were as follows:



- Instagram and exposure to inappropriate material.
- Video: House of Horrors (The dangers of accepting unknown friend request)
- Cyber Bullying (Targeted or tormented via the internet)
- Local Story (Revealing too much information online)
- Tips (Safe Practices for children while online)
- Solutions & Advice
- What are the challenges we face

The second Workshop was held at St Peter's Church, Beterverwagting for the East Coast parishes.

3. Creating safer environments for children through the VIRTUS seminar that is aimed to spread the awareness of the programme to more organizations. The objectives of these secessions are to assist in the prevention of abuse of chiden and the vulnerable in our churches and society.

On the 5th May 2016, a two-part programme entitled Protecting God's children was held at the St. Joseph Parish in Diamond for the East Bank communities. A total of 75 persons from along the East Bank attended this workshop.





Budgeting Workshop

4. Stimulate, inspire and encourage the practice of good moral standards and ethics by Youth through a Young Adult Conference. This conference is aimed at encouraging and inspiring youths to contribute positively to the development of society.

Dubbed "Youth Quake" the Conference was held on 8th August, 2015 and was attended by approximately 180 youths from across the diocese.

Another youth conference "Youth Quake 2016" is scheduled for 23rd July, 2016 at the St. Stanislaus Auditorium.

4. Critical Conversations for Laypersons is a programme designed to communicate a deeper understanding of ministerial boundaries and the lines between personal and professional roles.

Offered for the all parish communities this programme presented on Saturday 20th February intrigued a priest who encouraged that it be taken to the parishes. Bishop Francis who gave opening remarks and encouraged the acceptance of the programme as a way of managing boundaries for those being served by the Church. Considered novel to Guyana and perhaps the region, Critical Conversations is created by the producers of the Virtus programme.

6. Helping families to manage their finances in creating a budget, setting savings goals and developing a spending plan.

There were three sessions held to achieve the objective as stated above. The first workshop was held on Saturday 11th April, 2015 at the Catholic Life Centre where attendance was open to any parish. The second, on 16 April, 2016 was held at the Parfaite Harmonie community, West Bank Demerara. While the third session was held on the 5th May, 2016 at St. Joseph, Diamond, EBD. A fourth workshop was held on 5th June, 2016 at St. Peter's BV for the East Coast parishes.

7. Using the theme "Mission & Love", the Family & Life Commission members visited the homes (St. Thomas Moore [men] & Nazareth Home [women]) for elderly on 11th February for Valentine. In preparation for this 'Mission of Love' the Commission involved children by asking them to make Valentine cards to show the residents of the homes that they care. The Commission also took care packages containing basic essentials.

Available at:

<http://www.rcdiocesegy.org/diocese/stewardship>



SUMMARY OF FINANCIALS FOR THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL 2015

Bishop's Annual Appeal

Income	2015
Direct Expenses	G\$
Net Income	\$4,984,884
	\$315,000
	<hr/>
	\$4,669,884

Expenditure on Projects

Youth Office Activities	
Camp Kayuka Renovations	
Adult Education Programmes	
Finance, Internet Safety, Parenting and Virtus Workshops	\$346,044
Youth Quake	\$513,679
Visit to elderly homes	\$60,000
Critical Conversations	\$30,000
Total Expenditure on Projects	<hr/>
	\$949,723

Balance of Income

\$3,720,161

Balance of Fund to be spent on:

The 2015 balance will be used by the Family & Life Commission over the next few years to continue with their ministry to families

