



The meeting held on **19th April, 2008** was quite well attended . We look forward to seeing our volunteers each month so we can update them on the activities and projects organized by the Centre. Many activities depend upon volunteer participation to ensure success.

We continued to discuss the **Green Ribbon Campaign**. The launch of the Peace Pledge, discussed at the March meeting was held on Saturday, 12th April at Arawak Cay but was poorly attended by volunteers and the public alike. However, the presence of the Macedonian Youth Band and several of their parents helped to make the event a success and the assistance given by Junior Achievers was much appreciated. The Police Band who played early in the event was appreciated by tourists and locals alike.

Entries for the competition "Catch Yourself-Don't Wreck Yourself" continue to come in and it has been decided to only distribute ribbons and bracelets to those schools that participate in the Campaign, by entering the competitions, or organizing activities and assemblies.

It is encouraging that a few Family Island schools have sent in entries for the competition.

Child Abuse Prevention Month is continuing throughout the month of April. Several incidents of child abuse which become apparent to teachers in the schools were recounted and caused much concern among the volunteers. Stories of young students becoming involved in their parents' conflicts made everyone realize why many of our children are developing into angry adults and thus creating and perpetuating a cycle of violence.

It was felt that teachers should try to find alternative methods to corporal punishment seeing as we are attempting to promote peace in the schools and community. Concern was expressed about the number of young girls demonstrating inappropriate behaviour on such sites as Hi5 and it was suggested that everyone should report any incidents involving any underage girls

It was recognized that teachers are under a lot of pressure and that maybe individual counseling should be offered to boys in particular who are behaving inappropriately.

It was acknowledged that we are all responsible for intervening in situations where children are violent or rude and in encouraging children to talk about their problems in an attempt to get to the root of the problem.

**Chakira Hamilton** presented on the plans for a Fashion Show and Trade Show possibly to be held in early July. A suitable venue has to be found and it was suggested that the New Providence Community Centre could be used, as that location would provide both indoor and outdoor facilities. Chakira suggested we try to make it more of a Fun Day/ Fair event, to encourage families to come out.

Sylvia Arnold will find out if the first week in July is available and then Phyllis Garroway will be approached to see if she can help with the Fashion Show itself. The cost of each booth will have to be determined but \$50 was considered a possibility.

Volunteers signed up for the **Atlantis Health Fair**.

**Training of new volunteers will take place on Saturday, 24th May.**

*Meetings are held on the **3rd Saturday of every month** and we try to call all volunteers to remind them. However, please keep the dates in mind, as it is not always possible to call everybody.*

*We welcome calls to the office to ask about any meetings, events and activities in which you might be interested. **Novelette** is our **Administrator** and she is always happy to hear from you.*

***Hotline volunteers** are asked to report any calls they have received while on duty. We continue to thank all of you for keeping this essential service going.*

**www.bahamascrisiscentre.org** now has even more brochures on it so if you need information on any issues we address, please check it out! Looking forward to seeing you on **Saturday, 18th May at 10.00am**