

PRESS RELEASE

Little things can go a long way.

This was the sentiment during a brief presentation ceremony on July 11 at the Grenada National Council for the Disabled (GNCD) headquarters on Scott Street.

Agency for Reconstruction and Development (ARD) Director of Social Recovery Dr. Jennifer Holder Dolly presented the GNCD with 12 new chairs, as part of the ARD support in helping to furnish the office that

was damaged by Hurricanes Ivan and Emily.

The chairs have set in motion a greater developmental plan of the GNCD that incorporates increased disability training programmes.

"The new chairs will facilitate workshops and other activities at the Council. We are very happy that the ARD has responded to our request for

these chairs," GNCD Coordinator Ms. Hilary Gabriel said.

The first programme to benefit from the donation is the ongoing Sign Language Programme. The Programme is geared at developing a cadre of persons who can properly interact with the hearing impaired who require assistance in their everyday business and social transactions.

"From time to time the hearing impaired may need to go to court or to the banks, and having a pool of people from which we can pull individuals to accompany them helps a lot," Ms. Gabriel said.

The GNCD Coordinator also believes that training in Sign Language will help to reduce discrimination faced by the disabled in society.

Dr. Dolly expressed ARD's delight at being able to facilitate the needs of the Council.

"We at the ARD are really happy to assist GNCD in your development. It is our hope that we can both continue to focus on the abilities of the disabled so they can attain their full potential to contribute to the development of our society," Dr. Dolly said.

The Council has future training sessions planned, including an Intermediate and an Advanced Sign Language Programme geared to commence at the end of the Basic course currently underway.

Information for photo: Left to right: GNCD Treasurer Raymond Toussaint; GNCD Coordinator Hillary Gabriel; ; GNCD Assistant Secretary Treasurer Clifford John; ARD Director of Social Recovery Dr. Jennifer Holder Dolly.



July 13, 2006

Agency for Reconstruction and Development Inc.

Botanical Gardens, St. George's, Grenada

Tel: 473-439-5606/07/08;

Fax: 473-439-5609;

Email: mail@ardgrenada.org <mailto:mail@ardgrenada.org>

Website: www.ardgrenada.org