The Carlton House Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre has recommenced services to persons who suffer from drug-related problems. Services were resumed on 4 February 2008, in Belmont St. George’s.

On 7 September 2004, Carlton House was severely destroyed by Hurricane Ivan. The remaining structure was then completely destroyed by fire on 24 February 2006.

During the period 4 February to 31 March 2008, ten (10) patients (8 males and 2 females) received out-patient services at the Carlton House. Provision of the treatment and rehabilitation services is done by a staff of four (4) persons, headed by Nurse Brenda Scott.

Presently, Carlton House provides limited out-patient services. Services are provided for approximately five hours per day. While this limited services is not adequate to meet the needs of those who urgently need such assistance, the Government of Grenada, through the Ministry of Health has recognized that treatment and rehabilitation services were necessary. As a result, the Ministry of Health took the decision to re-establish Carlton House. With financial assistance from the St. George’s University, and other forms of assistance, a new venue was obtained, from which such services could be provided.

Carlton House Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre was established on 4 January 1985, to provide treatment to both males and females for alcoholism and related problems. However, it soon began to provide services for cocaine, crack and marijuana users. The late Professor Michael Beaubrun, the late Dr. George Clarke, Dr. Roger Radix, Mrs. Shirley Mathlin, Dr. George Mahy, and Dr. N. Prabakher worked assiduously to establish Carlton House.

Meanwhile, the Government of Grenada has obtained funds to construct a new Carlton House Treatment Centre. Preliminary drawings have been completed for the new facility. A number of meetings were held to discuss plans for the construction of the new facility, including new services to be provided at the facility. In 2005 an evaluation of all drug treatment and rehabilitation services provided in Grenada was conducted. It is expected that these findings would inform such new services.

The Drug Control Secretariat would endeavour to create an atmosphere of non-tolerance towards drugs, through the implementation of appropriate programmes, which would promote the well-being of all persons in the State of Grenada.

**OUR MISSION**

The Drug Control Secretariat would endeavour to create an atmosphere of non-tolerance towards drugs, through the implementation of appropriate programmes, which would promote the well-being of all persons in the State of Grenada.
One of the challenges faced by the national drug control programme in the post Hurricane Ivan period, was the relative absence of adequate drug treatment and rehabilitation services for persons who suffered from drug-related problems. Following the destruction of the sole drug treatment centre by Hurricane Ivan in September 2004, many persons were unable to access treatment services.

In 2006, two young men visited the Drug Control Secretariat and pleaded with the Officers, “Send us to prison, so that we would be unable to get the drugs to use.” This showed the desperation faced by some of the drug users in the society. Numerous persons visited and phoned the Ministry of Health, General Hospital, and the Drug Control Secretariat, to seek medical attention for their drug-related problems.

The establishment of some drug-treatment and rehabilitation services at the Carlton House Treatment Centre, which commenced in February 2008, is certainly a step in the right direction. The Government of Grenada, through the Ministry of Health, must be commended for taking the initiative to reopen Carlton House. Commendation must also be extended to the St. George’s University for its financial contribution to assist in the reestablishment of the facility. Such partnership would benefit Grenada.

The Drug Control Secretariat will embark on an anti drugs and violence programme with staff of all the secondary schools in Grenada and Carriacou. The programme will commence in September 2008 and will run throughout the school year.

The programme will provide principals and teachers with knowledge and skills to deal with drugs and violence-related incidents. In addition, the staff would be briefed on the National Schools' Policy on Drugs.

Further, information would be provided on procedures to be observed if drugs or weapons are found on the school compound or in the possession of students.

Statistics from the Royal Grenada Police Force (RGPF) show that over 200 students were arrested and charged for drug related offences, acts of violence and other criminal offences between June 2001 to March 2008. On 29 May 2008, a violent altercation occurred between two students, which led to the death of one.

Meanwhile, drugs and violence prevention programmes will be increased in secondary schools, with emphasis placed on the students of Forms 1 in September 2008. Mr. Arthur Pierre will coordinate the programme.
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ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMME 2002 TO 2007

The following is a synopsis of significant achievements made by Grenada in the implementation of its national drug control programme, since the establishment of the National Council On Drug Control, for the period 2002 and 2007.

National Anti-Drug Strategy
♦ Strengthening and renaming of the Drug Control Secretariat.
♦ Formulation and approval of the National Anti-Drug Master Plan in 2004.
♦ Participation of Grenada in the Four Rounds of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) of the OAS/CICAD.

International Conventions & Legislation
♦ Ratification of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA), 1997.

National Information System
♦ Establishment of the Drug Information Network (GRENFIN), which is the epidemiological monitoring system or the National Drug Observatory of Grenada.

Prevention
♦ Development of a Manual to teach drug prevention education at the pre-primary and kindergarten level.
♦ Development of a module of lessons to teach drug prevention education in Grades 6 and 7 in primary schools, and all forms in secondary schools.

Treatment
♦ Implementation of extensive evaluation of drug treatment aftercare and re-integration programs in 2005.
♦ Implementation of minimum standards of care, in accordance with those developed by CICAD.

Control of Pharmaceutical Products
♦ Implementation of an automated information management system to facilitate the control of pharmaceutical products.

Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials
♦ Development of a national computerized database that maintains a record of the importation, exportation and transit of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.

Money Laundering
♦ Establishment of the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU).
♦ Establishment of the Grenada Authority For The Regulation Of Financial Institution (GARFIN).

Drug Production & Trafficking
♦ Decline in the local production of marijuana.
♦ Decline in the availability of cocaine on the local market.

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IN THE NEWS

In an effort to provide the public with relevant, timely and accurate statistical data in drug-related matters, the Drug Control Secretariat has produced a one-page Fact Sheet, with data for the period 1988 to 2007. The Fact Sheet presents a summary of statistical data on drug-related arrests, seizures, imprisonments, criminal deportees, money laundering, and other related matters.

In a meeting between Officials of the Drug Control Secretariat and Dr. Ernesto Randolfi of the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine of the St. George’s University, both parties agreed to a greater collaborative effort in the implementation of research studies in the area of drug prevention. One of the areas discussed at the meeting held on 8 April 2008, was a study on risk and protective factors in drug prevention. He also offered technical assistance in other areas of drug prevention.

The topic, “Linkage between Drugs and HIV/AIDS”, was one of the issues presented at the first of a series of one-day workshops convened by the Royal Grenada Police Force, for its Officers. The presentation was done by the Drug Control Secretariat as part of its on-going campaign in collaboration with the National HIV/AIDS Directorate. The workshop was held 18 April 2007.

Students of Grades 6 and 7, have been provided with relevant skills to resist drugs and violence. As part of its programmed to equip students of Grades 6 and 7 with drugs and violence resistance skills, the Drug Control Secretariat in collaboration with several schools, have conducted educational sessions with the students. These sessions were done between April to June 2008.

DRUG BUSTS

The following are highlights of major drug busts by the Royal Grenada Police Force in Grenada, for the period April to June 2008.

- 29 kilos of cocaine and 3 kilos of marijuana confiscated. (1 April 2008)
- 159 kilos of marijuana confiscated. (1 April 2008)
- 79.9 grams of cocaine confiscated. (4 April 2008)
- 1.36 kilos of marijuana, 1 kilo of cocaine and 1 9mm pistol with 6 rounds of ammunition confiscated. (25 April 2008)
- 183 units of cannabis plants were manually eradicated. (27 April 2008)
- 9.52 kilos of cannabis confiscated (28 April 2008)
- 245 units of cannabis plants were manually eradicated. (4 June 2008)
- 1,067 units of cannabis plants were manually eradicated. (6 June 2008)

THE NEWSLETTER is a quarterly publication of the Drug Control Secretariat, Ministry of Education, Botanical Gardens, St. George’s, Grenada. Telephone: 473-440-7911; Fax: 473-440-7701; E-mail: dave.alexander@gov.gd