

The Grenada Education and Development Programme, GREMED, salutes the Grenada Houston Association as it celebrates Grenada's 44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence! Congratulations and thank you for supporting education!

The core mission of GREMED is to prepare youth in rural communities to move out of poverty and provide leadership for Grenada. We approach this by providing support for their schooling to be a catalyst for their empowerment and leadership development. Every year, we provide around 28-31 students with \$1,500.00 for tuition fees, transportation allowance, meals support and other necessary school supplies; we provide week-end leadership development training seminars as part of empowering rural young girls and boys to grow in confidence and to take leadership roles in their respective schools and communities; and overall, we provide a positive environment for and vision of their future so as to encourage them to stay in school and excel. Along with parents and guardians, we *message* students that we have high expectations of them and we are with them in what can be a positive life-changing journey that rewards self and others.



*A group of students and parents receive financial awards and meet with the Executive Director in December 2017*

As many of us know and have experienced, this is an old, slow but effective strategy for progress and transformation. With the 2015-2030 United Nations Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals, (SDGs), education is viewed anew and re-vitalized as a foundation for improving people's lives and as an anchor for overall sustainable development to transform society for the better. For us in GREMED, this vision and agenda on SDG education, is now an opportunity to drive home that understanding and to aim to accomplish more

transformation.

We're really very, very pleased to invite your strong financial and other support for GREMED on its journey for Grenada.

GREMED marked its 21<sup>st</sup> year in July 2017. We announced that for the academic year 2017–2018, we would provide 25 new scholarships. Today, we have provided scholarships to 17 students entering secondary school, 10 to secondary school graduates who began national two-year college, and 1, a young man to become a nurse, to St. George's University. Students are mostly selected on the basis of potential leadership roles they aspire to take up while in school and following graduation. Some just want to make something strong and decent of themselves. We accept both categories, once there is strong family and community support. Our contribution is continued for up to graduation, based on good academic and other performance assessed in a twice annual review.

Because of limited human and financial resources, we are able to support only a small proportion of students who, on an annual basis, apply to GREMED for assistance. Thus the GREMED package includes financial support, twice monthly *leadership development sessions* facilitated by different professionals in social development and history, ethics and sustainable development such as climate change and environmental concerns. *Mentors* are often assigned and a vibrant

and popular *GREMED (summer) science* with round the island bus trip, has fallen off, but with financial support, we have hopes to revive it.



*GREMED Students at its 2017 Leadership Seminars at the St. Andrew's Methodist School*



2017 was a good year for our small organization: a total of \$42,000.00 was given out to our students and a significant sum was spent on their leadership development skills; six (6) students graduated from T.A. Marryshow Community College, the biggest class from college so far--half of them are gainfully employed while they seek scholarships to study sociology and medicine. One student graduated from secondary school with eight (8) CXC subjects including Mathematics and she plans to attend college; finally, in 2017, support was re-vitalized in the US with GREMED-USA Inc. as a tax deductible body.

We sincerely thank all who have helped. We celebrate the scores of families who have realized the dream of formal education and a better life for their children. We are proud to be a part of that success for family and sustainability in Grenada!

To the Grenada Houston Association, we need your support now and appeal to you to: **contribute money**: for USA tax-deductible contribution, make check payable to GREMED USA Inc., and send to Marie D'Amato-Rizzi,



*December 2017 performance review*

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Thank you!

***Approved by the Board of Directors, Cosmos Joseph, Chairman. January 2018***