



GREETINGS BY

ORVILLE HILL

GENERAL MANAGER FINANCE JSIF

FOR

SPONSOR SIGNING CEREMONY

Austin Primary School St. Elizabeth

July 10th 2014

10; 30 am

Salutations

- Mr. Basil Bennett Board Chairman of Austin Primary
- Ms. Leela Dee Gayle Education Officer South Eastern
Region St. Elizabeth
- Ervin Bellanfante Member of School Board Austin
Primary
- Acting Principal Joney Levy Smith Austin Primary
- Students
- Parents
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Morning,

I bring you warm greetings on behalf of the Board,
Management and Staff of the Jamaica Social Investment
Fund.

A total of one hundred and thirty one staff and students
will directly benefit under the rehabilitation of Austin
Primary -a project being pursued under the Community
Investment Project – implemented by JSIF.

The Community Investment Project - A Caribbean
Development Bank and Government of Jamaica project
-is a combined effort to pursue improvement of

infrastructure in education, health and transportation in targeted, rural communities throughout Jamaica.

Our community partners are significant contributors as well, participating in a very detailed preparatory process.

Today, you will further commit yourselves to providing services and goods in kind as your valuable contribution to ensuring that our students and teachers at Austin attain a better learning environment.

The conditions which will be addressed –as you know - are primarily those which make the learning process a miserable one for all affected.

Specifically classrooms are separated by chalkboards, which pose a difficulty for teachers conducting classes

due to distractions to students from neighboring classrooms.

The roof leaks during rainfall and in extreme cases, chunks have fallen onto students while classes are ongoing; charts and other teaching aids have also been damaged by the water. Additionally the maintenance of recently acquired computers for use by students is threatened from the poor condition of the roof during rainfall.

The absence of a perimeter fence at the school also significantly impacts the safety of the students and staff. There is no proper fencing or gate as a result the school

can never really be closed which often results in stray animals coming onto the property.

In collaboration with our community stakeholders, the total rehabilitation project will include the installation of:

- Perimeter Fencing
- Two (2) removable partitions for classrooms
- Repairs to roof of existing building
- Rehabilitation of old/abandoned building for use as a library

The project is expected to be completed in three months.

Overall, total project cost is \$17.59 million of which JSIF will contribute \$16.06 million and the community's contribution is \$1.53 million. Community contribution is expected to include provision of storage for materials during construction; provision of security for materials during construction, venue for meetings, ceremonies etc.; and provision of two liaison officers for works.

The project is a partnership between us as an implementing agency and yourselves the community stakeholders. It harmonizes with the mandate of the CIP which aims to improve the quality of education and also improve public safety.

As you receive this investment we encourage you as a community to ensure that the sustainability of the infrastructure is a priority. To aid you in this, JSIF will provide maintenance training at a later stage during the project. You have our best wishes as we add our signatures for the start of this worthy project through a partnership we know will be successful

I thank you.