



THE HEARTBEAT

January - March 2021



The DRCS Supports Ministry of Health

Vaccination Campaign

On Tuesday, 2nd March, 2021, the Dominica Red Cross Society (DRCS) made a significant contribution to the Ministry of Health, Wellness, and New Health Investment - Health Promotion Unit to assist with the Island's Vaccination Campaign.

The donation of four (4) cooler bags were received by Mrs. Mignon Shillingford - Rolle, , which will help facilitate delivery of the COVID-19 vaccines and assist the health professionals at the health centers in the roll-out of the vaccines.

Mr Reginald Winston stated that the DRCS was honored to partner with the Ministry of Health in providing assistance with the distribution of the vaccine. In addition to being on the field educating the public, now, "our volunteers are on the ground at the health centres... we continue to support each other and stand by the fact that we are all in this together. we all have to protect ourselves and each other."

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Volunteers assisting at health center for vaccination roll - out

A number of volunteers assisted the staff at the Roseau & Marigot Health Centres by conducting screenings, registration, first response and monitoring and evaluation of persons who received the COVID-19 vaccine.

DRCS Volunteers also took the opportunity to get vaccinated themselves.



Some volunteers assisting at the Roseau Health Center and individuals who got the COVID - 19 jab.



10 Institutions Receive Donation

Ten (10) Institutions received a donation of hygiene supplies to support their efforts in fighting against the COVID - 19 pandemic.

Eight (8) charitable institutions including **CALLS, Alpha Center, Operation Youth Quake, Dominica Cancer Society, Chances, Dominica Council of Women, GROTTTO** - Home for the Homeless, and **Council of Aging** and two (2) schools namely, **Goodwill Secondary School** and **Christian Union Primary School (CUPS)** were the recipients.

The Environmental Health Department, specifically, the Port Health Officers were also recipients of of hygiene packages from the DRCS. Each hygiene package included:

Face Masks, Liquid hand soap, Rubbing Alcohol, Hand sanitizers, Surface wipes, gloves and Temperature Guns-(Port Health Officers), to assist in maintaining sanitary practices and stopping the spread of COVID - 19.



Representative for Grotto Home receives donation from the Director General of the Dominica Red Cross, Sandra Charter - Rolfe



Bro. Raymond Philogene, Coordinator, receives donation on behalf of Alpha Center



Representative of the Dominica Council of Aging receives donation



Lennox Abraham, Managing Director of Operation Youth Quake receives supplies on their behalf



Mrs. Brenda George, Principal of CUPS receives donation on behalf of the school



Vanya David, President, receives donation on behalf of Dominica Council of Women



Did you know?

The Dominica Red Cross offers First Aid and CPR training.
Contact us at 448 8280 to register.



Food Voucher Assistance

A total of sixty-two households (40 females, 22 males) received food vouchers from the Dominica Red Cross Society as part of the COVID - 19 response project.

This initiative aims at assisting persons whose livelihood was impacted by the pandemic. Some vouchers were also issued to vulnerable individuals within various communities. The food voucher was valued at XCD\$150.00.



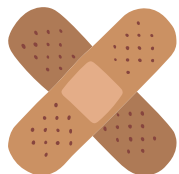
Recipient grateful for receiving a food voucher



Food voucher recipient



Food voucher recipient



Did you know?

The three goals of first aid is to preserve life, prevent worsening of an emergency condition and promote recovery.



17 Participate in ECAT Training



The Dominica Red Cross held a two (2) - day training in Emergency Care, and Treatment for ambulance drivers and first responders. The training was facilitated by the Dominica Fire and Ambulance Department. The course was designed to provide the participants with the basic skills and knowledge needed to provide care and safety to persons in need of medical assistance in a work or home environment while waiting for professional help to arrive.

The components of the training were: ***Introduction to Emergency Medical Response, Ambulance Operations, COVID-19 Sanitizing and Doffing, Familiarization of Equipment, Vital Signs, Search & Rescue, Musculoskeletal Injuries and Lift & Carry.***

Photos of participants during ECAT Training



Dominica Red Cross receives Response Truck

The National Society received its first response truck to assist with transportation of relief items across the island and aid in disaster response.



DRC Partners with Amazon Web Services - Disaster Response



The popular shopping mogul - Amazon, partnered with the Dominica Red Cross to host the first ever "**Mapping for Preparedness and Resilience**" training in the Caribbean. For 3 days, 15 Participants using the Amazon Web platform learned the various resources available for Mapping and how to utilize them to collect and store data before and after a disaster.



Emergency Tip

If a situation appears to be more than you can handle yourself **ALWAYS CALL AN AMBULANCE.** Do not hesitate.



Branch Update

by Karen Riviere - Cuffy, Disaster Coordinator

The Dominica Red Cross held its quarterly Branch leaders meeting on 27th March 2021 where the Chairs and Vice Chairs were in attendance. The President, Mr. Reginald Winston and Director General, Mrs. Sandra Charter - Rolle, of the Dominica Red Cross were also in attendance and addressed the attendees.

Mr. Reginald Winston implored the members who were present at the meeting to show that the Dominica Red Cross is a cohesive organization. The President also touched on the COVID - 19 situation in the country and asked the participants to set an example for others to follow and take the COVID - 19 vaccine.

The branches presented on the activities that they accomplished for the past year like:

- Fund raising activities, (Raffles, cake sales)
- Community activities to include (beautification of community delivering packages to the sick, visit to sick and shut ins.)
- Formation of Branch youth groups
- Recruitment Drives
- Activities to sensitize community about COVID -19.

The Director General in her remarks gave a summary of the National Society's response to COVID 19, these activities included: positioning of volunteers at the Roseau and Marigot Health Centres to assist the medical professional with vaccination, relief to persons affected by COVID 19 in the form of food vouchers, public service announcements aired on Various Radio stations, distribution of hygiene items to various organizations and school. It was reported that billboards were set at various areas to promote safety and to sensitize persons about COVID - 19.

The meeting ended with the Disaster Coordinator, Mrs. Karen Riviere - Cuffy reminding the Branches of the approaching Hurricane Season and the activities required to prepare the branch and volunteers.



Did you know?

Unless life is in danger, you should not move a victim with a suspected fracture or joint injury until you have immobilized the injured area.



Branch Feature

by Mary- Rose Dunstan, Chairperson, Wesley Red Cross Branch

The **Wesley Red Cross Branch** has a number of accomplishments to be proud of. Despite being re-established during the COVID - 19 pandemic in 2020, they were able to provide aid to the village at an individual and institutional level.

The first achievement as a group was the dispensing of sanitary products specifically to the village's two preschools - **Word Rival Preschool** and the **Community Preschool** and two primary schools - The **Wesley Government School** and The **Temple Seventh Day Academy (SDA)**. This action was fueled by the pandemic and how imperative it was to have good hygienic practices to prevent the spread of the COVID - 19 Virus. The pre - schools and primary schools were specifically targeted as we know how easy it can be for germs to spread amongst children.

The care package comprised of soaps provided by the Dominica Red Cross, cleansing agents like bleach and hand sanitizers. This was presented to the Principals of all the institutions by the Wesley Branch members.

Our second act targeted an individual who had an unfortunate health incident and had one of his legs amputated. While waiting for a prosthetic leg, he utilized crutches to get around. The group decided to provide him with a new pair as the one he had was a bit worn down.



Wesley Branch members hand over donation of care package to school



Wesley Branch members assists vulnerable man in the community

This new pair of crutches was provided by the Dominica Red Cross Headquarters and was presented to the individual by the President and one supporting member.

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**WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER
PROTECTED TOGETHER
FIGHT COVID -19**



WASH YOUR HANDS



WEAR A MASK



**PRACTICE
SOCIAL DISTANCING**



GET VACCINATED

#WeInThisTogether #Covid-19 #Vaccine #VaccineSavesLives #VaccinesWork



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