



Church Teachers' College

ALUMNI Association Inc.

Mandeville | Jamaica

Annual 2013 - 2014 Membership Report

For presentation at the Annual General Meeting of the CTCAAI

August 30, 2014

Association's Overview:

'I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everyone' – Bill Cosby

CTC Alumni Association Inc (CTCAAI) continues to make a difference in the lives of many including current and past students. We operate as a Not-for-Profit Organization and aspiring to provide opportunities for students to realize their dreams in becoming a graduate of Church Teachers' College (CTC) is one of our perennial goals. Additionally, we want to provide an avenue for past students of our Alma Mater to rekindle the nostalgic spirit once experienced on campus. We have been growing in size as increasing numbers of past students become aware of the organization; and I anticipate that over time the majority of members will become active participants, owning their membership in the organization as Paid-up Members.

Since our inception, CTCAAI has provided meaningful funding to other projects on campus. In 2013, the Association contributed approximately JAM\$500K towards the repair and restoration of the College's swimming pool. In addition, we provided some US\$2,225.00 to the chapel project.

Scholarships: CTCAAI continues to attract and solicit benevolence in the form of financial support for scholarships, bursaries and grants, among other types of awards distributed through our STAR programme i.e. Student Teachers' Assistance through Reciprocation. We are extremely grateful to our past students who have donated funds to the organization for scholarship; and wish to express our gratitude to two current donors, Marilyn Barnett and Hope Grant.

Ms. Barnett is the Benefactor of the Kerr Jarret Gift of Hope (KJGH). We are excited about this 'Gifting' and recognize this sacrifice of love to her Alma Mater and a deserving student who will certainly accept it with the true spirit of paying forward. This particular scholarship is intended for a student of Early Childhood Education, living on KJGH.

Ms. Grant is the Benefactor of The Mary Stewart Bright Futures scholarship (MSBF). We are elated that Hope was so kind in bearing this gift of love that will benefit a deserving student and her Alma Mater. The beneficiary has to be a past student of Godfrey Stewart High School whom matriculated at CTC.

Recently we became aware of another student on campus who might have been blocked from sitting his end of year exams because of a debt he owed to the college. We appreciate the Board's ingenuity to step in and assist him with his financial obligation to the College.

Thanks to the STAR Committee for the dedication and professionalism exercised in their deliberation in making this process equitable. Special thanks to Manager Marilyn Barnett and Programme Development and Document Designer Liz Smith for their leadership and commitment. **We encourage many others to give back with whatever is comfortable, including cash and kind.**

Fundraising: We continue to encourage our members to participate in fundraising activities which include the payment of membership dues. While our board members serve on a voluntary basis, there are administrative costs associated with running the Association. These costs include annual fees to secure registration of the Association, communication, mailing, bank fees, and website hosting fees, just to name a few.

We appreciate all our members who have been supporting our cause and would like to express special thanks to Anthony “Tony” Norman and the Mandeville Chapter for their efforts; and Pamela Blake-Rose who manages fundraising activities in South Florida. Thanks to everyone who continue to support our annual events even from a distance.

Membership: Membership is at the pinnacle of our existence. I know this is addressed by Membership Director Alejandro Wilson, who has been doing a fantastic job, suffice it to say that we continue to enjoy enormous interest among past students as we can see a steady growth in the numbers requesting addition to our Facebook site.

New Website: Our new website (www.ctcalumniinc.org) is ready for membership usage. As we continue to add content and adjust the navigation we ask members to send us their comments via the ‘Contact Us’ page. A new addition to the site is the ‘In Memoriam’ tab on the ‘Members’ page to honour the ‘fallen’ among us. We invite those of you who are aware of staff or students who passed away with no objection by families to mention their passing on our site, to share this information with us through our ‘Contact Us’ page.

Challenges: We recognize and acknowledge that every new idea or effort will only occur when the challenges are accosted with focus. Our Association is no exception to that philosophy. Expanding our foothold by building more chapters to reach and share the vision of the Association; continuing to urge past students to invest in ownership of the Association; and developing business relationships with specific companies, especially those that are owned and/or run by past students are some of our main challenges. We invite and welcome those among us with varying skill sets that can advance our goals to express and share these with the Board of Directors.

Events: CTCAAi promotes a culture of expectations; and among these are successful events that provide great interactions, a platform to reminisce and relive the nostalgic days on/off campus, a revival of friendships, and a sharing of old and new pictures of self and family. One such event is the Black & White Evening of Excellence on our campus. Others are the June Picnic and Christmas Dinner in South Florida. In addition, there is a group in New York that meets annually for Christmas Dinner. I encourage your to support these events and help to make them memorable.

CTC50 Celebration is fast approaching and all Churchites should be planning to visit our campus, especially if you have not done so for several years. The Association will have four days for our reunion activities; and we look forward to seeing all Batches represented in large numbers. Please check our website regularly for new information and updates as they become available. Dates for the Reunion are July 23-26, 2015.

Summary: Acts 20:35 declares ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive’. Mayo Angelo must have been familiar with the verse when she declared: **‘I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver’.**

We have encapsulated this philanthropic purpose in our motto: **R2R (Return to Reciprocate)**. We understand our demographics and we also know that God has been good to many. Together, we can climb mountains and cross valleys. Let us therefore not ask “... what CTC can do for us ...”, but let us ask “How can I help?”

Thanks to everyone for listening, attending, or helping to make our year a success. For those who could not participate, we encourage you to become active in what we are doing for our Alma Mater, as we strive to learn from failures and build from successes. A goal of JMD10M to education at CTC would provide immediate funding to current and prospective students. One hundred people each donating \$10K would produce JMD1.0M. One thousand people donating \$10K would be JMD10.0M.

Michael Andrews
CTCAAi President
R2R – Return to Reciprocate