

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE BAHAMAS:
A BROAD-SPECTRUM, STRATEGIC OVERVIEW, AND ANALYSIS OF
THEIR IMPACT, CHALLENGES AND NEEDS TO MITIGATE SOCIAL ILLS
WITHIN THE COUNTRY

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WITHIN THE COUNTRY**

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Abstract

Social challenges and concerns are issues that affect a great number of individuals in the Bahamas and exerts a great financial strain on the economy. While the existence of Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) provide some relief to the financial strain, the burden is greater, and more relief is needed. As a result of the questionnaires completed, telephone calls made, and interviews conducted, vital quantitative and qualitative information was received which highlighted and confirmed some inadequacies and gaps as it relates to the operational mapping of NGOs within The Bahamas and their capacity to address the myriad of social ills in the country.

The investigations revealed that while there are many NGOs in the country, only several are registered to the point where they can achieve the maximum benefits for their organization and its' purposes. Of the ones registered, there is a great disparity of the number of persons impacted compared to the size of the population of the Bahamas. Consequently, crucial areas of concerns are not being adequately addressed, some NGOs need additional funding and there exists a great level of deprivation in the society amongst vulnerable, marginalized and indigent families. To assist in addressing this concern, it was crucial to conduct a broad-spectrum strategic investigation of the current presence, functionality, diversity and impact of NGOs and their contribution in the Bahamas.

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Ever since my graduation in June of 1987 from L. W. Young Secondary High School, located on Bernard Road, in the Village of Fox Hill, Nassau, Bahamas, I have been on a journey to discover my purpose in life. For many years I have struggled to determine where I could make my greatest contributions, and how could I make a difference in my family, my community and in the world. My cross-functional work experiences and curriculum vitae are testament to my search and journey of discovery. Consequently, I have come to realize that through the works and deeds of my ancestors, and some of my life's experiences I have been called to the service of others. I am cognizant of and grateful for their heritage, deep level of faith, generosity in stewardship, and their corporal and charitable works of mercy and compassion toward the poor, needy, less fortunately and underprivileged in our society. Hence, I believe that I am indeed called to assist in the education, motivation and advocacy to and for others as an enduring and perpetual legacy. Therefore, this doctoral dissertation in fulfillment of a degree in Business Administration, is a significant milestone in my life, which culminates a journey of education and learning. Moreover, this culmination now makes way for a new path, expedition and journey of education, learning and discovery as I aspire my life's goal to bring about greater impact and positive change in the lives of others.

Foremost I would like to express sincere gratitude and appreciation to my academic advisors and tutors at Atlantic International University. I thank Dr. Jack Rosenzweig for his continued support, guidance and assistance during this journey. He was very direct in his approach and this contributed to my ingenuity and persistence in completing this degree as he supported me as my Academic Advisor during phase III of the program. I also acknowledge and express gratitude and appreciation the Dr. Jackie Burton who served as my first Academic Advisor. She assisted and guided me during phases I and II and provided critical feedback on assignments and supported my transitions throughout the program.

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In a special way I acknowledge and give God thanks for His awesome Grace, Favor and Mercy. This unmerited favor which I enjoy together with my family is indeed a sign of encouragement and support, for which I could never repay; but I will forever be mindful and will do my best to remain humble and grateful. When I think of God and His love for me and humanity, I recognize that it is His love that has inspired me to study and write about this subject matter. It is this genuine, noble, unconditional love that I discovered, which inspired many of the founders of various NGOs, to move to action. It is indeed the very act of love emitting the heart.

I am grateful that I received nurturance from my deceased mother, Isabelle Ferguson, whose simplicity, sincerity and support for the bereaved, sick and poor helped me gain a deeper appreciation for the poor, under privilege and less fortunate brothers and sisters in our society. To her, together with my aunts the late Dorothy Ferguson-Cesar and Bernadette Ferguson-Brown I owe a great deal of gratitude and appreciation. My mother is the reason why I have begun to make strides toward becoming a better steward in aiding and empowering others. In many ways I've been privileged to observe her simple and humble generosity. Devoid of pageantry, and in an imperfect way, she made great strides to live out Christian stewardship. Her life and witness inspire me toward my favorite scripture verse (Proverbs 3: 5-7) "*Trust in the Lord and lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy path*". Furthermore, and in my own imperfection, she continue to inspire me as I reflect and try to live by these words taken from another favorite scripture verse (1st. Corinthians 15:58), "*Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.*" To this end I have paraphrased, coined and adopted my mantra,

"If by my thoughts, deeds, words and actions, I can help somebody along life's journey, then my living will not be in vain."

I dedicate this Dissertation to the life, good deeds and memory of my mother the late Isabelle Ferguson, who is still my inspiration. I also dedicate this to my children Ricardo II, Anaiah & Skylar for their love of me, and especially to my wife Alexandria for her wisdom, maturity, continued love, encouragement and support of everything I do and of all that I am.

To God Be the Glory, Great Things He Has Done!

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Chapter One

INTRODUCTION

Productive, progressive and successful nations, that consider the values of human rights and equal opportunities are dedicated and noteworthy countries. They exert a great deal of stewardship which include resources of their nations' time, talents and treasures to the economic, social and psychological development of their economies, societies and citizen's emotional growth. They also place great emphasis on their countries' financial success and advancement.

Progressive nations are open and accommodating to citizens who arise to champion noble, noteworthy and far-reaching causes. Such citizens engage these noble causes to aid and assist the government in meeting many of its' challenging and enormous tasks of providing for every citizen in need in the country. Hence, such governments welcome these significant causes and invite philanthropic gestures, financial assistance and contributions to bolster and compliment the services of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in their countries. In fact, some governments may at times alleviate the red tape to assist NGOs with their licensing and establishment.

“An examination of the growth in these government-supporting organizations reminds us that the legal definition of a “charity” via the tax code is broader and more inclusive than most people may realize. Among those activities allowable under section 501(c)(3) of the tax code are not only relief of the poor, distressed, and underprivileged, and advancement of religion, education, and science, but also activities that support public service provision. These include, for example,

erection or maintenance of public buildings, monuments, or works; activities that lessen the burdens of government; and activities that lessen neighborhood tensions. Thus, on the face of it, charities created to support government services are hardly controversial from a legal standpoint. Legislators have also defended their efforts to create charitable foundations for public agencies by claiming that these new entities can bypass legal obstacles to public-private partnerships, increasing flexibility and minimizing red tape.” (Gazley, 2015, para. 2).

The Bahamas like many of these nations is one of these countries that believe in human rights and equal opportunities.

The Bahamas Independence Order (1973) states, “Whereas every person in The Bahamas is entitled to the fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual, that is to say, has the right, whatever his race, place of origin, political opinions, color, creed or sex, but subject to respect for the rights of others and for the public,”. (art. 15, chapter III, p. 17).

This country believes in such opportunities as they relate specifically to its citizens social and psychological well-being. The Bahamas also believes in and is engaged in the struggle to ensure that every citizen in need is given the opportunity to benefit from any of the extra-ordinary services provided by NGOs, charities and other civic organizations in the country. Despite great efforts from successive governments many outstanding social ills still exist.

There have been several financial and natural disaster challenges that oftentimes stifle the level and rate at which the country is able to respond to all social concerns and needs. This negatively impacts the sustainability capacity of NGOs to successfully address these issues. Such setbacks give rise to the observation that the country needs additional support and assistance. Hence, it is imperative that other

civic minded citizens, groups and individuals arise to further champion such noble causes; to assist in advancing and developing new opportunities and innovative approaches to expand and diversify the level of NGO's contribution in the society.

In August 2019 during the time of this research, an investigation into the database at The Harry C. Moore's Library, University of The Bahamas was conducted, and The Department of Statistics was contacted in reference to obtaining prior studies regarding NGOs in the Bahamas. Unfortunately, there seems not to have been any other individual studies, thesis, or reports, which considered a holistic and more wide-ranging view of many of the areas of social ills that requires attention in The Bahamas. Additionally, there appears to be no other review or report that may serve to play a significant role in helping to address the number of concerns; as they relate to the challenge of meeting the needs of more of our less fortunate citizens in The Bahamas.

Recognizing this reality, and in an effort to provide what is hoped to be a significant, timely and needed contribution to the success and development of this beautiful country, this dissertation seeks to present, "A Broad-Spectrum, Strategic Overview and Analysis, of the Diversity, Impact and gaps of Non-Governmental Organization's Contribution in The Bahamas"

Background of the Study

To bring an interior and peripheral view to this study, it was necessary to conduct a brief investigation of the current list of registered NGOs, agencies and institutions that presently provide some level of ease to our social challenges. It is noted that these organizations (NGOs) do so by way of providing financial and other assistance, support and relief to many of the nations' poor, needy, deprived, under-privileged and less

fortunate brothers and sisters within our society. The results of this study provided invaluable insight on operational capacity of NGOs and their contributions to the Bahamian society. Hopefully, these results, may serve as a reminder to The Bahamas government, the value of its' financial commitments and international obligations as a member of the United Nations and its' "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)".

The Secretary General of the United Nations, Antonia Guterres encouraged all countries to work cooperatively on fulfilling the targets of the 2015 SDGs:

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 global goals designed to be a "blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all". The SDGs, set in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly and intended to be achieved by the year 2030, are part of UN Resolution 70/1, the 2030 Agenda.

The Sustainable Development Goals are:

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
10. Reducing Inequality
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life On Land
16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals

The goals are broad based and interdependent. The 17 sustainable development goals each have a list of targets which are measured with indicators. In an effort to make the SDGs successful, data on the 17 goals has been made available in an easily-understood form.^[6] A variety of tools exist to track and visualize progress towards the goals (U. N. Resolution 70/1).

Having conducted this research it is noted that The Bahamas is making strides as a government and more significantly as a result of the generous undertakings of the civil society community in the country.

Statement of Problem

The purpose of this study is to identify the number of NGOs that exist in the Bahamas. It is also to provide an insight as to the focus, vision and mission of their organizations, and contributions toward the social challenges in the country. Another purpose is to identify gaps and or areas that need further attention and support. Additionally, this study examined ways to fill any of the gaps found, and where possible made recommendations to assist in positively affecting and improving the impact of NGOs within the Bahamas.

This research is significant because it is intended to bring to the attention of the government and society alike, the level of support and contributions made by the NGO society. The intent is to assist in stimulating further awareness and the need for people to come together to discover their purpose and to create positive value to society. Hopefully, this study will highlight the efforts of the present NGOs and will cause others to aspire to adding value for the benefit of the less fortunate. Expectantly this study in some way can become the impetus to engender vision, desire, purpose and a drive to make positive change in the lives of others. In "Generating visions and values around human rights" and in role 1 of his journal, Noh, (2017) quotes Rahman (1993) who explains: "A social movement itself is not an end. It is more important to build alternative values and a healthy community through collective actions. NGOs can support grassroots efforts to develop social meanings and alternative visions in the process of

developing social movements”.

A significant aspect of this study is that it highlights the fact that more innovation towards social outreach is needed within the Bahamas. According to most NGO respondents, more effort is desired to provide financial assistance, support, relief and opportunities to and for the needy and underprivileged within the country. The positive impact of NGOs will be greater with the sustained partnership with the government and private sectors, and when they are open to constructive critique and plausible suggestions. Greater awareness on the part of the government is also needed. Governments’ assistant and support of new proposals that are worth considering is critical. Such support would prove advantageous to increase and improve the level of assistance given to needy and under privileged citizens throughout various communities in the country.

Based on the information shared in the general analysis, it is easy to note areas of social challenges that are not being addressed sufficiently in the country. The information extracted from the web searches and from the general overview captured in the corresponding table “NGO’s Comparative Analysis & Impact Chart”, provides a snapshot to reveal this perspective (Table 2). From this viewpoint, one would understand why it is necessary to positively affect and impact the social challenges that exist within The Bahamas.

Research Questions

This topic intrigued this researcher to the point of inquiry regarding NGOs. While it is obvious that they exist and make significant contributions to the Bahamian Society, unless bits and pieces of information is garnered from various government agencies,

which lacks in completeness and assembly, the gap as it relates to the lack of information on this sector called for assistance. This research has answered that call. For the purpose of this study, the questions guiding this research were:

1. What Non-Governmental Organizations exist in The Bahamas and who are their target clientele?
2. What are the effects and impact of NGOs contribution toward the Social Challenges within The Bahamas?
3. What are the gaps that create inefficiency amongst the NGO groups within The Bahamas?
4. What level of government and private funding do NGOs receive to provide their services?

Significance of the Study

In keeping with what has been discovered as a result of this research and noted on the list of United Nations' "Sustainable Development Goals" above, reference is made to agenda item numbers 1. "No Poverty" and 2. "Zero Hunger". Wikipedia found that, "Poverty is not having enough material possessions or income for a person's needs. Poverty may include social, economic, and political elements. Absolute poverty is the complete lack of the means necessary to meet basic personal needs, such as food, clothing and shelter".

To shed greater light and emphasis on poverty and hunger, the founders of the United Nations provided qualitative and quantitative data to express a sense of urgency and further encourage countries to work cooperatively on the (SDGs):

More than 700 million people, or 10% of the world population, still live in extreme poverty and is struggling to fulfil the most basic needs like health, education, and access to water and sanitation, to name a few. The majority of people living on less than \$1.90 a day live in sub-Saharan Africa. Worldwide, the poverty rate in

rural areas is 17.2 per cent—more than three times higher than in urban areas.

Having a job does not guarantee a decent living. In fact, 8 per cent of employed workers and their families worldwide lived in extreme poverty in 2018. Poverty affects children disproportionately. One out of five children live in extreme poverty. Ensuring social protection for all children and other vulnerable groups is critical to reduce poverty.

Poverty has many dimensions, but its causes include unemployment, social exclusion, and high vulnerability of certain populations to disasters, diseases and other phenomena which prevent them from being productive. Growing inequality is detrimental to economic growth and undermines social cohesion, increasing political and social tensions and, in some circumstances, driving instability and conflicts (U.N. Charter on SDGs 2015).

This research provides an insight and a broad-spectrum overview of NGOs in the Bahamas with emphasis on their impact, gaps, funding and goals to alleviate poverty, unemployment and crime. It addresses the question as to whether there is a need for other civic organizations in the country. Based on the targeted sample and scope of this study, it helps to solve the problem as to ascertaining where some gaps exist in the society with regards to the social challenges that are not being addressed or requires additional support and assistance. This research highlights the importance of this subject matter which is a vital component of social outreach in The Bahamas.

A critical role of NGOs is to positively affect and impact the social challenges within the country, and it is vital that they provide outreach services and assistance to the poor, needy, underprivileged and less fortunate individuals and families in the Bahamas. Additionally, and very significantly, NGOs provide relief and support for the government in many ways. The government needs assistance and support because

while it exists to provide for the safety and well-being of its' citizens in the country, it cannot do so on its' own. For the time being and at best, the government can only provide some financial and "in-kind' support to assist NGOs in the country, and to this end, not all are being supported or subsidized.

("Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the United States," 2017),

Areas of Activity for NGOs in the United States:

Approximately 1.5 million NGOs operate in the United States. These NGOs undertake a wide array of activities, including political advocacy on issues such as foreign policy, elections, the environment, healthcare, women's rights, economic development, and many other issues. They often develop and address new approaches to social and economic problems that governments cannot address alone. Many NGOs in the United States operate in fields that are not related to politics. These include volunteer organizations rooted in shared religious faith, labor unions, groups that help vulnerable people, such as the poor or disabled, and groups that seek to empower youth or marginalized populations. Indeed, NGOs exist to represent virtually every cause imaginable. Their sources of finance include donations from private individuals (American or foreign), private sector for-profit companies, philanthropic foundations, or grants from federal, state, or local government. Sources of finance may also include foreign governments. There is no prohibition in U.S. law on foreign funding of NGOs; whether that foreign funding comes from governments or non-government sources. (U.S. Department of State website. 2019).

Further to the information retrieved from the Fact Sheet provided by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, on January 20, 2017 aforementioned, the Bureau concurs that governments cannot address all countries' social ills alone. Similarly, and given the number of responsibilities to be addressed on a recurrent basis it is also a challenging task for the government of The Bahamas. Together with the financial expenditure to address budgetary items and the number of unforeseen

financial situations that occur from time to time, it is impossible for the government to holistically address all social concerns within the country. Hamid, Aamir & Ahmad, Zaheer (2019) notes that:

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), legally constituted organization, have become progressively more influential in the world's affairs. They often impact the economic, social, cultural, and political activities of societies as a whole. NGOs of this modern age are making strong roots in every society mainly due to its operational working about concerned societies' problems (p. 75).

Consequently, governments in general should be relieved when community minded citizens find and establish NGOs that positively address any of the social challenges in their countries. Hence, the purpose of this study is to provide some insight on social challenges and how NGO's provide such supportive and encouraging assistance to the government of The Bahamas in executing noble causes.

Limitations of the Study

Inquiries were made to the Department of Statistics, Ministry of Social Services & Urban Development, Registrar General's Department, inclusive of the database at The Harry C. More Library, University of The Bahamas, but in all instances, no prior information or studies were found. "There is no report or statistics on NGOs at the Department of Statistics, this is not an area that the department surveys during its census exercise" (Frith, I. Telephone Interview. July 5, 2019). Consequently, this exercise is inaugural in its' approach and may serve as the foundation for which other futuristic studies may build upon. Unfortunately, no comparisons could be made with any other work or studies, and hopefully this will be the one used for that purpose sometime in the future.

In directing the exercise regarding the study, while there were some other

uncontrolled limitations to the process, there were at least two that had to be inflicted. In the latter, and in the first instance, regarding the imposed limitation it was decided to narrow the scope of the research. That is, rather than engage the insurmountable task of trying to ascertain the actual number of NGOs in the country (unregistered and registered), this study is limited to a relatively small sample of NGOs which is from the Department of Inland Revenue's list of Registered NGOs in the country.

The main reason was to ensure that this report accurately reflected the numbers of the NGOs who have complied with the necessary requirements, to be duly recognized and established to execute the task of such organizations within the Bahamas. That decision also facilitated the process of reduced research and feedback time in addition to limiting the number of observations in the research targeted group of respondents.

In the former circumstance as it relates to the uncontrolled limitations, among the encounters were, limitations in its' subject matter, challenges receiving information, inconsistencies with record keeping and making contacts with some of the NGO's and their representatives. The research was limited in its' subject matter as no previous studies were found during the research exercise. Additionally, it was discovered that the Department of Statistics has discontinued surveying NGO's in the country a very long time ago, hence there is no data available to make comparisons, predictions or projections.

In many cases, while there was cooperation with the interest in providing the information on several of the NGOs, unfortunately the information was not available. For example, in several cases, no data is being recorded to reflect the number of persons impacted on a monthly or annual basis. Hence there is no historical data upon

which recommendation and projections could be reasonably made for accounting and budgetary purposes. In this instance, either the NGO was not keeping thorough records and or the process is not one that has been mandated or implemented at this time.

This process became even more challenging, as in other instances, it was difficult to contact at least three (3) of the registered NGOs. In this instance, there are a few NGOs where there is no listing in the telephone directory and there seems to be no official website established for informational purposes. Hence, either very limited or no information at all is provided on the NGOs Comparative Analysis Chart (Table 2).

Finally, and in the second instance of self-imposed limitation was the fact that this research observed all the registered NGOs to gather information on their overall contribution and impact in the country. To that end, it was only necessary to retrieve some very basic and limited information, so as not to burden this report with too much detailed information on any one NGO. What was discovered is the fact that several of the NGOs would welcome the opportunity to have their full stories told to garner additional financial assistance and in-kind support for their organization.

Organization of the Dissertation

This dissertation included descriptive, expository and persuasive writing in various portions of each chapter. Chapter Two presented the literature review as it addressed the research questions and utilized an expository approach which presents an overview of the chapter, used historical, local and international data to define NGOs, offered a general analysis, and explains the process used to gather information on the sample NGOs. It is further compacted as it also included information that may be

represented in the indices of this thesis, under the overview of targeted NGOs.

The review of these pages provided a break in the flow of the theoretical component of this study. It was decided that they remain embedded in the text to support the chapter overview and corresponding interviews. This is followed by Table 2 which display the impact of the present number of NGOs in the society. The chapter continued by providing a review of the social challenges in The Bahamas, explained strategies to diversify and expand NGOs and charitable services in The Bahamas. To assist in providing some visual presentations, this chapter includes two tables inclusive of Table 7 – “Characteristics for the HEART” and Table 8 which suggest a “HEART Operations Model for NGOs”. This section concluded with aspects of the chapter observations and conclusion.

Chapter Three outlined the research methodologies and explained the research design. It also provided a list of participants and described the research instrument, sources & data collection processes.

Chapter Four explain the outcome of the analysis. It reviews the results from the questionnaire, findings, discussions, interpretations, comparisons, causal argument, speculations and implications of the findings. It also presents three tables including Table 4 - NGOs Thematic Analysis, Table 5 - NGOs Grouping Chart and Table 6 - NGOs Grouping Bar Graph.

Chapter Five offer suggestions for future research and provides several recommendations inclusive of recommendations for NGOs, recommendations for the Government of The Bahamas, recommendations for other NGOs, and Suggestions for NGOs. Finally, chapter six provides a brief overview in summary and conclusion.

Chapter Two

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

In working to formulate a solution to the issue of reaching more of our under-privileged and less fortunate brothers and sisters in the Bahamas, it was necessary to research crucial areas of concern. This research defines NGOs from a local and international perspective, and considered these objectives as follows:

1. What is an NGO?
2. Inquired as to the present strategies to diversify and expand NGOs and charitable services in the Bahamas.
3. Ascertained a general idea of the number of social challenges that exist within the country based on the information provided from the relevant government agencies.
4. Ascertained and reviewed the impact of the present number of NGOs and their level of contribution within the society and gained an average level of the amount of people positively impacted within the society. See (Table 2): The Impact of The Present NGO's within The Society, (NGO's Comparative Analysis & Impact Chart).

What Is An NGO?

As it relates to the Bahamas and Enacted by the Parliament of The Bahamas is the "NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS BILL, 2018. A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND FOR CONNECTED PURPOSES" (Appendix 5). In PART I PRELIMINARY Section 1 Short title and commencement, item (1) which cites it as "NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS ACT, 2018, and in Section 2 (p. 4) defines as follows:

Non-Profit Organization means a body of persons whether incorporated or unincorporated, formed and established for the purpose of promoting public policies or objects that are religious, charitable, educational, scientific, environment, historical, cultural, fraternal, literacy, sporting, artistic, or promoting health, and whose gross income or any part thereof, if any, and other income are applied to the promotion of those objects, and there is a prohibition of any dividend or refund of contributions to its members.

The investigations found the origin of NGOs as noted below:

(Binder-Aviles, 2012) “The term “NGO” first came into use after World War II when the United Nations applied it to private organizations that helped heal the ravages of the war – millions of displaced people, orphans and high unemployment. But the concept of citizens organizing around issues goes back much further. Some scholars identify the first International NGO as Anti-Slavery International, established in 1839.”

The NGO Handbook also provides the following: “Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) advocate for human rights and environmental protection, build youth leadership, work to end violence against women and children, assist the poor and much more. Starting an NGO can be a powerful way to bring about change.” (Binder-Aviles, 2012). In addition to the meaning above, further studies and philosophies have led to differing views on NGOs. Beggington, A. J., Hickey, S., & Mitlin, D. C. (2008) refers to “Conceptualizing alternatives” and notes that “NGOs have been seen as sources of alternative ways of arranging microfinance, project planning, service delivery and so on: that is, alternative ways of intervening” (p. 5).

General Analysis

In order to add some additional value and increase the number of NGO's in the country to impact and improve the lives of individuals in need within the society, it was necessary to compile secondary data. The information gathered has assisted in ascertaining details on NGOs and provided a way forward to complete this research.

In reference to the general analysis, and to ascertain what areas of challenges have been receiving some attention to date, it was necessary to research and review a sample target group, the list of the Department of Inland Revenue's "registered" non-governmental organizations in the Bahamas.

The Department of Inland Revenue's website (2019) provided a "List of Approved Charities/Non-Profits" in The Bahamas. Upon reviewing this document, it was noted that there are 32 establishments listed which for the purpose of this study are referred to as NGOs and represents a small sample from a list of 1,255 (Appendix 4).

While there are more than 32 charitable, non-profits and civic organizations, this study focused on the 32 that The Bahamas government and the Department of Inland Revenue listed as approved and recognized within the country. This does not suggest that the others are not recognized, but rather, this study focused on the NGOs that maximized their organizations' compliance, funding and operational opportunities. This recognition is based on the established guidelines and registration requirements as noted in the Acts (laws) that govern all Non-Profit Organizations.

To this end and to uniformly present the more important aspects of each of the non-governmental organizations, it was decided that the following information where possible, would be extracted, highlighted and presented in the "Information Request

Guide” as noted in the chart that follows (Table 1):

Table 1
Basic Limited Information Request Guide

	Category of Information	Importance and Relevance of Information
1	Founder(s)	Provides an insight into the thoughtfulness, generosity, humanity and level of interest about the individual (s), institutions or groups that have gone beyond self; and engaged the spirit of stewardship in demonstrating empathy and compassion while considering the needs of others.
2	Founded	The date provides a level of appreciation as to the genesis of the NGO, the time elapsed and service rendered over time. This helps to highlight the time given toward providing relief and helping others in need of support and assistance.
3	Focus	Identifies the area(s) which the non-governmental organization is targeting and may provide an insight into those that are not and needs attention.
4	Vision	Identifies where the founder(s) would like to take their dreams and aspirations, and the goals and plans that they would like to see accomplished to make a difference in the society.
5	Mission	What steps will be taken to bring relief, support and assistance to the less fortunate and those in need in the society.
6	Impact	Provides an idea where possible and in the instances where the information was given, as to how many persons have been affected by the outreach and goodwill of the non-governmental organizations. This may also possibly give an insight as to the very many who have not yet been impacted or had the opportunity to benefit from the generosity of such fine organizations.

In addition to the six (6) categories noted above, the secondary research and comparisons also found that several of the NGOs included and highlighted the “Values” of their NGOs on their respective websites. An important aspect to note about values is that it helps to determine and plays a vital role in the NGO’s vision and mission statements. Binder-Aviles explains that, “Writing vision and mission statements is one of the most important things you, the founders of an NGO, do. Vision and mission statements set the tone for your future work. In the beginning, set aside time for your core leadership team to come together and define your NGO’s aims and means to accomplish them.” (2012).

While the secondary research provided a significant amount of information on the targeted number of NGOs selected for this analysis, it was discovered that in many instances several pieces of relevant information was not always and immediately available during the initial investigation. In fact, it was necessary to conduct further secondary research utilizing other websites in addition to the NGO’s Facebook pages to complete many aspects of the information targeted for this analysis.

Below is the list of registered NGOs and the information gathered from the research methodologies engaged to compile data and complete the data collection process. The NGOs are listed numerically as they appeared on the list of non-governmental organizations found during the research process. The NGO’s name will be followed by a photo or logo where available, followed by the name(s) of the NGO’s founder(s), the date the NGOs were founded, the NGOs area(s) of focus, their vision, mission and impact in cases where such information has been provided from the list (Appendix 2) which trail the overview of targeted NGOs as follows:

OVERVIEW OF TARGETED NGOs	
Department of Inland Revenue's List of Registered Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)	
1	Adventure Learning Center
2	Bahamas Association for Social Health
3	Bahamas Humane Society
4	Bahamas National Trust
5	Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation
6	Bahamas Urban Youth Dev. Center
7	British Legion-Bahamas Branch
8	Cancer Society of the Bahamas
9	Coalition to Save Clifton (Save the Bays)
10	Freeport Rugby & Football Club
11	Friends of the Environment
12	Governor General's Youth Award (GGYA)
13	Grand Bahamas Children's Home
14	Hands for Hunger
15	One Eleuthera foundation
16	Pace Foundation
17	Pilot Club of Nassau
18	Red Cross Society of the Bahamas
19	Red Cross Society of the Bahamas – Abaco
20	Red Cross Society of the Bahamas-Grand Bahama
21	Ride for Hope
22	Rotary Club of East Nassau
23	Sir Charles Hayward Library
24	Sister Sister Breast Cancer Group
25	The Bahamas Children's Emergency Hostel
26	The Bahamas Diabetic Association
27	The Charitable Arts Foundation
28	The National Lead Institute
29	The Nazareth Center
30	The Salvation Army
31	The Salvation Army – Freeport
32	YMCA Grand Bahama

1. The Adventure Learning Centre (ALC)

Photo



No. 76, Marshall Road, Nassau, Bahamas

- Founder(s): Randy and Kimberly Grebe
 Founded: September 13, 1993, Envisaged by Randy Grebe 1986
 Focus: Education and Evangelization
 Vision: To reach out to children in the Bahamas
 Mission: "We exist to live out the message and mandate of Jesus Christ to the people of the Bahamas through our words and witness through innovative educational programs, Camp Retreat Experiences and Community Interactions and Partnerships."
 Impact: Over 250,000 persons since inception and approximately 9,000 students per year

2. Bahamas Association for Social Health (BASH)

Logo



Earth Village, Columbus Drive, Nassau, Bahamas

- Founder(s): Terry Miller
 Founded: June 10, 1991
 Focus: Substance abuse
 Vision: Treatment & Rehabilitation for men
 Mission: To manage an adult male residential substance dependency treatment and rehabilitation (T&R) program. It provides a 12-Step facilitation, and motivational enhancement therapy.
 Impact: Approximately 12,000 persons over 28 years, and approximately 30 persons per month. 30 bed facility with 3 – 6 months program cycle.

3. The Bahamas Humane Society (BHS)

Logo



#35 Dunmore Avenue, Chippingham, Nassau, Bahamas

- Founder(s): Betty Kenning-Kelly
 Founded: 1924 as the “Dumb Friends” League speaking for those who could not speak for themselves. The BHS is Nassau’s oldest charity.
 Focus: Animals and the environment
 Vision: Our vision is to create a comprehensive system of national parks and protected areas, with every Bahamian embracing environmental stewardship.
 Mission: To promote the humane treatment of animals & prevent cruelty to animals

4. Bahamas National Trust (BNT)

Logo



Bay Street Business Centre, Bay St. East,
 Nassau, Bahamas

- Founder(s): The Bahamas Government
 Founded: Established by an Act of Parliament in 1959
 Focus: Conservation
 Values: Stewardship
 Vision: Conserving and protecting the natural resources of The Bahamas, through stewardship and education, for present and future generations.
 Mission: The Bahamas National Trust is mandated with the conservation of natural and historic resources of The Bahamas.

5. Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation (BREEF)

Logo



Unit # 11, Caves Professional Center, West bay St.& Blake Road, N.P., Bahamas

- Founder(s):** Sir Nicholas Nuttall
Founded: 1993
Focus: “BREEF is a non-governmental nonprofit Bahamian foundation concerned with educating our people about the value of and need for conserving our marine environment.”
Vision: “A Bahamas where all people appreciate the value of our seas and take action to ensure a healthy marine environment.”
Mission: “BREEF promotes the conservation of the Bahamian marine environment that sustains our way of life.”

6. Bahamas Urban Youth Development Center (BUYDC)

Logo



Windsor Lane, West of East Street, City of Nassau , New Providence

- Founder(s):** Leslie & Prodesta Moore
Founded: 2010
Focus: “BUYDC focuses on empowering the community through youth development programs”
Vision: “To be recognized as a model of integrity for demonstrating excellent customer service through mentorship, character building and healthy effective lifestyle to our communities and for being the best human service organization in the Bahamas. We will be the employer of choice; and be the best investment choice for our corporate, government and philanthropic partners.”
Mission: “To assist with the transformation of at risk youth and other disenfranchised and marginalized groups in the Bahamas, helping them to realize their self-worth and maximize their full potential.”
Impact: Since inception more than 5,000 persons and benefited from BUYDC

7. British Legion-Bahamas Branch (BLBB)

Image of the Headquarters



Baillou Hill Road, Nassau, Bahamas

Founder(s): Ex-Servicemen and Ex-Servicewomen of World War II
 Founded: 1945
 Focus: To provide care for Ex-Service & Ex-Servicewomen and their Spouses
 Vision: To provide ongoing financial support and assistance to Ex-Servicemen and Ex-Servicewomen and Spouses
 Mission: Same as above

8. Cancer Society Eleuthera

Logo



East Terrace Centreville (2 doors South of ZNS), Nassau, Bahamas

Founder(s): Susan K. Roberts
 Founded: 1976
 Focus: "To educate the public about Cancer so that it may be prevented or diagnosed and treated in its early stages, to be of service to cancer patients, and to raise funds to support these programs."
 Vision: Education and advocacy to advance the cause of cancer awareness on the island
 Mission: "To serve the public through educational programs aimed at prevention, early detection and treatment of cancer while providing support to cancer patients and their families."
 Impact: 12 Family island branches throughout the Bahamas

9. Coalition to Protect Clifton Bay

Logo



" 8 Jasmine Corporate Center, Freeport, Grand Bahama, Bahamas

- Founder(s): Group of Concerned Citizens
 Founded: 2013
 Focus: To protect and preserve the Bays in the Bahamas
 Vision: The promotion of policy change, monitoring the waters, community outreach, legal action, and advocacy
 Mission: Too preserve and protect the delicate environmental, ecological and cultural balance of Clifton Bay and the surrounding community.

10. Freeport Rugby & Football Club

Logo



East Settlers Way, East of the YMCA

- Founded: 1965
 Focus: Training and developing of the youths through sports
 Vision: The Club is proud to offer the best amateur club facilities in the Caribbean
 Mission: Same as above

11. Friends of The Environment

Logo

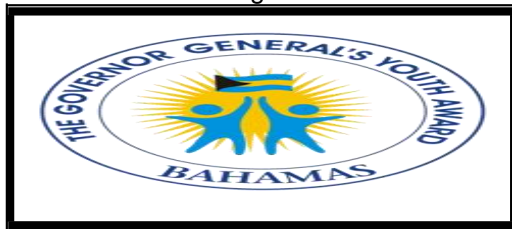


Marsh Harbor Abaco, Bahamas

- Founder(s): Frank Kenyon, Suzanne Bethel, Candace Key and Rudy Malone
- Founded: 1988
- Focus: Environmental Education
- Values:
 - Providing education to build respect for the environment and enable people to make informed decisions
 - Promoting individual responsibility and environmental stewardship
 - Proving opportunities for adults and kids to be out in the environment
- Vision: “We are an island community that is living sustainably, and proud to be stewards of our rich biodiversity.”
- Mission: Preserve the environment of Abaco, The Bahamas through education, conservation, and research facilitation.
- Impact: Has impacted 22,000 since inception and approximately 2,200 per year.

12. Governor General’s Youth Award Program (GGYA)

Logo



#11 Patton Street, Palmdale between Madeira & Rosetta, Nassau, Bahamas

- Founder(s): H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh’s Prince Philip established The Duke of Edinburgh Award Program in conjunction with Kurt Hahn, the German educationalist.
- Founded: 1957 in the United Kingdom, (Re-established in the Bahamas 1987)
- Focus: “Practical, Cultural and Adventurous Activities for Young People between the ages of 14-24 years of age.”
- Vision: “For the Award to reach more young people from diverse backgrounds and equip them as individuals to succeed in life.”
- Mission: “To promote the Award, provide young people with their Award program, and preserve the quality of the Award Nationwide so that the delivery of the Award continues to be relevant to the aspirations of participants.”
- Impact: More than 31,000 young Bahamians have engaged in community service.

13. Grand Bahama Children's Home

Photo



Young Husband Avenue & Tripp Lane, Freeport, Grand Bahama, Bahamas

Founder(s):	Concerned Citizen of Grand Bahama
Founded:	1977
Focus:	Care and Protection of children ages 0 – 12 years of age
Values:	To provide for the safety, care and protection of at-risk children
Vision:	To care for Grand Bahama's neglected children
Mission:	To provide care and protection for abandoned, abused and neglected children
Impact:	Has impacted 6,000 children since inception

14. Hands for Hunger

Logo



Blake Road, Nassau, Bahamas

Founder(s):	Group of Students Leaders, led by Alana Rodgers
Founded:	2008
Focus:	Feeding the poor and hungry
Values:	The care and well-being of a healthy society
Vision:	"Our vision is a transformed Bahamas where everyone has access to three nutritious and fortifying meals each day; no one goes hungry; and the quality of our environment is enhanced."
Mission:	"We strive to inspire a shared sense of social and environmental responsibility amongst citizens, who, individually and collectively, come to realize the power of their own contributions."
Impact:	"To date, we have rescued more than 1,000,000 lbs. of fresh, surplus food and provided the equivalent number of meals to Bahamians in need."

15. One Eleuthera Foundation (OEF)

Logo



Queen's Highway, Rock Sound, Eleuthera, Bahamas

- Founder(s): Diverse Group of Concerned Citizens of Eleuthera
 Founded: 2009
 Focus: Protection and preservation of Eleuthera natural resources
 Vision: The role of OEF in all of this is to connect people and organizations to the resource needed to find, develop or expand projects and activities that will allow Eleuthera and its inhabitants to be successful."
 Mission: "OEF's goal is to strengthen the Eleuthera community by identifying and investing in high quality projects that further its economic, environmental and social development."

16. PACE Foundation

Logo

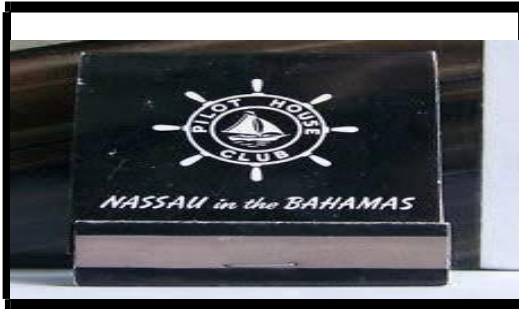


Christie St. Nassau, Bahamas

- Founder(s): Andrea Archer
 Founded: 1969, Incorporated on May 29, 2004
 Focus: Education, young girls and teen pregnancy
 Vision: "PACE envisions healthy and productive Bahamian youth, with the skills as adults to support, build and maintain strong families, strong communities and a strong Bahama Land."
 Mission: "To mobilize communities, Government and the Private Sector for increased opportunities for at risk teenagers and teenage mothers, and to empower teenagers to make healthy decisions about relationships, sex and parenting."

17. Pilot Club of Nassau

Logo



East Bay street, Nassau, Bahamas

Founder(s):

Founded:

Focus:

Values:

Vision:

Mission:

18. Ride for Hope Bahamas

Logo



Queen's Highway, Governor's Harbour, Central Eleuthera, Bahamas

Registered office: Holowesko Pyfrom Fletcher, Templeton Building,
Lyford Cay, Nassau, Bahamas

Founder(s): Stephen Holowesko and Susan Holowesko Larson

Founded: 2009

Focus: Cancer, and providing education and support for survivors

Vision: To help as many people as possible

Mission: "To raise money to support initiatives related to health, wellness and human development in The Bahamas."

19. The Rotary Club of East Nassau

Logo

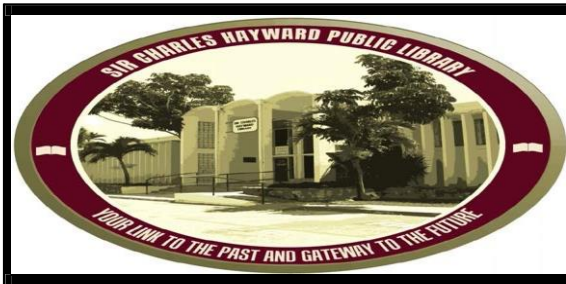


Nassau, Yacht Club, East Bay Street, Nassau, Bahamas

- Founder(s): Paul Harris
 Founded: May 6, 1963
 Focus: Service Above Self
 Vision: "A place where people from every corner of the earth can come together to become something greater than themselves."
 Mission: "Rotary brings together a global network of volunteer leaders who dedicate their time and talent to tackle the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges."

20. Sir Charles Hayward Library

Logo



East Mall Drive, Freeport, Grand Bahama

- Founder(s): A Group of Residents of Grand Bahama
 Founded: 1960, Incorporated December 13, 2011
 Focus: Education
 Core Values: "Educate, Preserve, Innovate, Empower"
 Vision: To preserve and transmit knowledge and educational opportunities
 Mission: "The mission of the **Sir Charles Hayward Library** is to preserve the past and transmit the knowledge, history and multicultural riches of Grand Bahama, The Bahamas and global communities using a variety of media and art forms."
 Impact: 3000 patrons (membership)

21. Sister, Sister Breast Cancer Support Group

Logo



East Terrace, Off Collins Avenue, South of ZNS, Nassau, Bahamas

Founder(s): Dr. Locksley Munroe and Dr. Charles Diggiss
 Founded: September 2000
 Focus: Women's health and wellness
 Vision: "To empower and educate women to actively participate in preventative Health"
 Mission: "To foster and environment to encourage the attitude of Women Helping Women"

22. The Bahamas Children's Emergency Hostel (BCEH)

Photo



McKinney Drive off Carmichael Road, Nassau, Bahamas

Founder(s): Kiwanis Club of Nassau
 Founded: April 1970
 Focus: Caring for neglected children
 Vision: "To provide temporary accommodation, food, clothing, medical care and other necessities for the benefit of abandoned and neglected children, until more permanent arrangements could be made for their welfare."
 Mission: "To Provide Adequate Care and Shelter in A Loving Productive Environment for Children from Birth to Eleven (11) Years."

23. The Bahamas Diabetic Association (DBA)

Logo



East Street North, opposite East St. Gospel Chapel, Nassau, Bahamas

- Founder(s): Ethel Knowles and Diana Pinder
 Founded: March 1986
 Focus: Health and wellness for Diabetics
 Vision: "To establish a support group in an effort to bring together parents facing the same challenge."
 Mission: "To educate and give moral support to persons with diabetes and their family."

24. The Bahamas Red Cross Society

Logo



Headquarters, 94 John F. Kennedy Drive, Nassau, Bahamas

- Founder(s): British Red Cross, Henri Dunant
 Founded: 1939, Renamed Bahamas Red Cross Society in June, 1975
 Focus: Health, prevention and alleviating suffering
 Vision: Treating and controlling disease and malnutrition
 Mission: "To prevent and alleviate suffering wherever it may be found.
 To protect life and health and ensure respect for the human being.
 To work for the prevention of disease and the promotion of health and social welfare. To train personnel and encourage voluntary service.
 To act as a channel for collecting money and goods donated by the general public for the sick and suffering."

25. The Bahamas Red Cross Society-Abaco

Logo



A branch of the Society operated on the Island of Abaco

26. The Bahamas Red Cross Society-Grand Bahama

Logo



A branch of the Society operated on the Island of Grand Bahama

27. The Charitable Arts Foundation

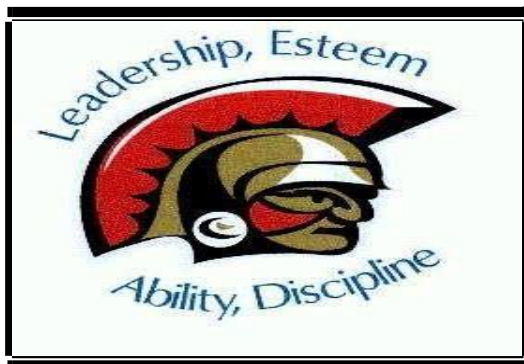
Logo



Founded: 1995
 Focus: Performing Arts and Culture
 Vision: "The Charitable Arts Foundation of the Bahamas is dedicated to supporting endeavors in arts and culture throughout the Bahamas."
 Mission: "To support Bahamian Artistic and Cultural Achievement."

28. The National L.E.A.D Institute

Logo



Carmichael Road, Nassau, Bahamas

- Founder(s): Troy E. Clarke
 Founded: September 7, 2009
 Focus: Community Corrections, Alternative School & Drug Treatment Programs
 Values: **Respect:** We Value the dignity, humanity and attributes of all individuals: and are driven to improve the quality of life for Bahamians, Americans and Citizens of the Caribbean. **Ingenuity:** We research, develop and apply new approaches, concepts and technology to develop effective and successful programs. **Integrity:** We do what we say we will, knowing that honor and reputation are the foundations for credibility, trust and success. **Stewardship:** We faithfully oversee, invest and leverage the time, talent and resources entrusted to us...even when no one is looking.
- Vision: "To harness the Leadership potential in the individual directing it to a positive goal, therefore transforming that individual into a person who has a strong self-Esteem, along with the Ability to accomplish whatever task is set before them and the Discipline to live their lives with purpose."
- Mission: "To provide personal development programs that transforms from within and services that assist both "At Risk" Youth and Pre & Post Prison/Correctional Facilities Inmates."
- Impact: Since inception over 5,000 individuals have been impacted.

29. The Nazareth Centre

Photo



Millennium Gardens, Nassau, Bahamas

- Founder(s): A Partnership between The Bahamas Government & The Catholic Archdiocese
 Founded: April 28th, 2001
 Donor: Mr. Philip Bennefoy, Investor and Businessman donated the Centre.
 Focus: To provide care and protection for children
 Vision: "It is to provide a warm and caring environment with a relaxed home-like atmosphere in which children would be nurtured and therapeutic play experienced."
 Mission: "The Centre is designed to provide a safe home for children who have been hurt or abused."

30. The Salvation Army

Logo



31 Mackey Street, Nassau, Bahamas

- Founder(s): Colonel Mary Booth
 Founded: May 1931
 Focus: Service – To Help the Downtrodden
 Vision: "Service is our watchword, and there is no reward equal to that of doing the most good to the most people in the most need." *Evangeline Booth, daughter of The Army's founder, William Booth.*
 Mission: "The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination."

31. The Salvation Army Freeport

Logo



A center of operation on the Island of Grand Bahama

32. YMCA Grand Bahama Trading as YMCA Grand Bahama

Logo



East Atlantic Drive & Settlers Way, Freeport, Grand Bahama, Bahamas

Founder(s): Sir Jack Hayward

Founded: 1970

Focus: Youth Development and Empowerment

Vision: To provide care, support, activities and recreation for young people

Mission: Development of the people who are building the Bahamas today.

To provide a broader spectrum on the subject, the researcher invited critical overview and suggestions to aid and add value to the study. One such suggestion was to include at least one international NGO to provide either differing or similar perspectives regarding mission, purpose, impact and objectivity. To that end, this research was successful in conducting a telephone interview with the founder of the iYes Foundation and was able to ascertain critical information presented in the style and format of the sample of NGOs in the Bahamas.

international YOUTH EDUCATION & SPORTS FOUNDATION

“ BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES THROUGH EDUCATION AND SPORTS ”



P.O. Box 8042, Springdale, AR 72766,
Email: lkashington@iyesfoudation.org, Tel: 803-602-iYES(4937)

Founder(s):	Dr. Simeon & Stephanie Hinsey
Founded:	May 2016, Northwest Arkansas, United States
Founded:	July 2019, The Bahamas
Focus:	Education & Sports
Vision:	The iYes Foundation is a Springdale, Arkansas based non-profit organization dedicated to helping the youth of Northwest Arkansas discover their passions and grow their world view through education and sports.
Mission:	Expose our youth and their families to opportunities and resources through education and sports that will enable their pursuit of excellence and achieve their purpose and empower them to make a difference themselves.
Impact:	Since inception the iYES Foundation has impacted more than 5,000 persons and presently impacts more than 100 persons on a monthly basis.

Telephone Interviews

1. Bahamas Reed Environment Educational Foundation (BREEF)

According to K. Glinton in a telephone conversation on August 16, 2019, "BREEF is a multi-faceted NGO which focuses on education, science, policy and research. BREEF also sponsors several of the other NGO's in the country and has assisted 60 plus students with scholarships since inception." This report notes however, that this number does not truly reflect their overall contribution to the country over the past 25 years, as the historical data regarding impact was not available during the time of this research.

2. Bahamas Urban Youth Development Center (BUYDC)

It took many attempts calling the telephone and cell numbers listed, double and triple checking their websites and eventually contacting the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Development to make further inquiries with reference to BUYDC. Once contact was made, it was discovered that this NGO is inactive. According to P. Moore in a telephone conversation on August 30, 2019, "One of the reasons for the temporary closure of (BUYDC) is lack of funding." While it was shared that the organization receives support from the government, it was stated that the funding is minimal and not substantial enough to significantly impact the NGO's survival. It was also shared that some financial assistance was also being received from the Ministry of Health, but this too was minimal and inadequate to bolster the floundered organization. It was further noted fortunately that the bulk of funding when the organization was operational, was being received from international sources. On a more positive note, the representatives

are optimistic and presently working to reactivate this NGO which has already impacted more than 5,000 persons since 2011.

3. British Legion Bahamas Branch (BBLB)

During the various phases of this investigation, it became a painstaking exercise to gather information on several of the NGOs. BBLB was one such NGO whose information was not gathered until the very end. In speaking with a representative from another NGO, inquiries were made to ascertain information on (BBLB) to compile data to aid this research. This means of information gathering worked as it resulted in the name of a contact which provided additional information and a subsequent telephone interview.

While speaking with the representative of BBLB it was shared that during World War One (1), there were 700 Ex-Servicemen that served in that war, and an additional 300 served in World War II. In 1945 the BBLB was founded to provide financial assistance and support for the Ex-Servicemen and their spouses. It was also discovered that of the 1,000 veterans there are only 7 survivors to date. Presently the BLBB's goal is to renovate and modernize the veteran's cemetery to enhance its value and beauty as a tourist attraction, and more importantly as a place of rest and respect in gratitude and appreciation for the contribution and sacrifices of these Ex-Service and their families.

Munroe, A. (2019, August 2). Telephone conversation.

4. Sister, Sister Breast Cancer Group

While historical data since the Group's inception in September 2000 was not available, a very tenacious representative was able to ascertain some data since 2005. This revealed that this group has impacted 2,605 persons from 2005 to date. They receive donations and support from just a hand full of corporate citizens and no financial support from the government. This NGO would welcome financial assistance from the government to help with discharging the very vital services for survival that they provide. In addition to focusing on "Women's Health and Wellness", this group also provides financial assistance toward payment for PETCT scan, which is a full body scan to assist with the diagnosis for women.

This research also found that from time to time, the Department of Social Services has been referring persons to the Sister, Sister Breast Cancer Group for financial support and assistance. This places additional strain on already limited resources and causes the group to reduce contributions to the members of their group, as they seek to provide some relief and assistance to support the Department of Social Services. Sands, T. (2019, August 1). Telephone conversation.

5. The Bahamas Red Cross Society

This interview revealed that the organization is not an NGO, but rather an Auxiliary to the government. This means that it assists and supports the government in various aspects of its social outreach needs. Currently the Society does not have historical data regarding its' contributions and impact in reference to the number of

persons who have benefited from this organization. It was mentioned however, that scores of individuals, groups and families have benefited since inception. Presently, the Society provides approximately 270 breakfast meals per day to individuals from Monday to Saturday between the hours 8 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Turnquest, C. (2019, August 30). Telephone conversation.

6. Ride for Hope

This NGO is quite aggressive and productive as it was founded only 10 years ago. With one primary focus on cancer which broadens and extends to the education of its' survivors, it has impacted more than 2600 persons since inception. This research found that this NGO has two major programs consisting of Family Island Mammogram Screening (FIMS) and Treatment Assistance. In the former instance, approximately 15 – 30 persons receive screening per month, and in the latter, up to 65 persons have already received treatment assistance for the year, and the number is expected to reach 70 persons. While the screening for persons may vary in costs, the treatment assistance is quite costly, and the support granted is now up to \$1,500.00 per person.

This NGO is proactive and visionary and is presently working with an Oncologist seeking ways to offer its' assistance with research to find solutions and preventative ways to address the plague of cancer within the society.

Larson, S. (2019, August 30). Telephone Interview.

7. The Salvation Army

In many ways like the Red Cross Society, the Salvation Army is a multi-faceted society whose focus has impacted thousands in the Bahamas for many years. While “Service is their watchword”, they have embraced this call as wholeheartedly as their means have allowed. In an interview with a representative it was discovered that these services include, feeding the poor, clothing the naked, providing shelter for the homeless, providing jobs for the disabled and a school for the blind.

The Salvation Army’s Divisional Headquarters is situated on Mackey Street, and it houses the main office, a school for the blind, and a mop factory to assist disabled persons within and throughout the community. It also has a Center in Freeport, Grand Bahamas. Fortunately, and unlike some others, this NGO received financial assistance and in-kind support from the Bahamas government through its’ ministries, departments and agencies. In fact, the Ministry of Education assist with a grant and support of the School for the Blind. The Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development provides a grant to assist with the shelter for women.

The Salvation Army is a well-structured organization and extends its services of reaching the whole man, by reaching out to and partnering with other like-minded NGOs in efforts to spread the resources and ensure that as many persons in need receive assistance as far as practicable. This NGO always plays a vital role with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) during times of natural disasters and national crisis. Armbrister, D. (2019, August 30). Telephone conversation.

8. international YOUTH EDUCATION & SPORTS FOUNDATION

The iYes Foundation is a Springdale, Arkansas based non-profit organization dedicated to helping the youth of Northwest Arkansas discover their passions and grow their world view through education and sports. What does NWA look like once our vision is achieved?

1. A generation of global citizens who know their purpose and value as well as the value of every person.
2. Then make purposeful decisions to use their gifts and talents to influence their own families, their community and the world for better emotional, physical, spiritual, social, and intellectual health.
3. They understand servant leadership and seek opportunities to serve and mentor others in their circle of influence.
4. Health disparities will be reduced or eliminated. Social justice, equality and equity for ALL people will be a reality.

Expose our youth and their families to opportunities and resources through education and sports that will enable their pursuit of excellence and achieve their purpose and empower them to make a difference themselves.

5. We will focus on the Whole Child – holistic health with a foundation of mentorship, communication and physical activity/sports.
6. Education is a critical tool to maximizing achievement so we will partner with local school districts to provide supplemental educational resources. We will personally build relationships with the teachers, students, and families of each school we work with to build brighter futures.
7. Sports and physical activity is a wonderful vehicle to guide us to a better understanding of our value and skills. Hinsey, S. (August 30, 2019). Telephone conversation.

Dr. Simeon Hinsey was born in the Bahamas, resides in Springdale, Arkansas in the United States and is the Founder of the iYES Foundation. Based on his own experience with the U. S. government's policies he strongly recommends government's support and invention by incentivizing NGOs who work to support governments' agenda in providing support and relief to needy and underprivileged citizens in the Bahamas.

Table 2: The Impact of the Present Number of NGOs within the Society

NGOs Comparative Analysis & Impact Chart							
	List of Registered Non-Governmental Organizations	Social Challenges Receiving Assistance or Being Addressed In The Society (Area of Focus)	Founded	Years of Operation	No. of Persons & / or Places Impacted since Inception	No. of persons Impacted on an Annual Basis	Does Your NGO receive Govt. Grant or Assistance Yes/No
1	Adventure Learning Center	Education & Evangelization	1993	25	250,000	9000	Yes
2	Bahamas Association for Social Health	Substance Abuse	1991	28	12,000	360	No
3	Bahamas Humane Society	Animal Care and Protection	1924	95	NDA	NDA	Yes
4	Bahamas National Trust	Conservation	1924	95	NDA	NDA	Yes
5	Bahamas Reef Env. & Educational Foundation*	Education, Science, Policy & Research	1993	25	50	NDA	Yes
6	Bahamas Urban Youth Dev. Center	Youth Development & Empowerment	2010	19	5000	NDA	Yes
7	British Legion-Bahamas Branch	Care for Veteran & Their Spouses	1945	74	1000	7	Yes
8	Cancer Society of the Bahamas	Education, Advocacy and Treatment	1976	43	NDA	NDA	No
9	Coalition to Save Clifton (Save the Bays)	Protection & Preservation of the Bays	2013	6	NDA	NDA	NDA
10	Freeport Rugby & Football Club	Youth Training & Development	1965	54	NCM	NCM	NCM
11	Friends of the Environment	Education - Environmental	1988	31	22,000	2200	No
12	GGYA	Cultural Activities for the youth	1957	62	31,000	6000	Yes
13	Grand Bahamas Children's Home	Care & Protection of Children	1977	42	6,000	480	Yes
14	Hands for Hunger	Feeding the poor and hungry	2008	11	2m lbs of food	NDA	No
15	One Eleuthera foundation	Protection and Preservation	2009	10	NDA	NDA	NDA
16	Pace Foundation	Education - Teen Pregrenacy	1969	50	NDA	NDA	Yes
17	Pilot Club of Nassau	NCM	NCM	NCM	NCM	NCM	NCM
18	Red Cross Society of the Bahamas	Alleviating suffering, Health,Wellness	1939	80	NDA	NDA	Yes
19	Red Cross Society of the Bahamas - Abaco	Alleviating suffering, Health,Wellness	1939	80	NDA	NDA	Yes
20	Red Cross Society of the Bahamas-G.B.	Alleviating suffering, Health,Wellness	1939	80	NDA	NDA	Yes
21	Ride for Hope	Cancer and education for survivors	2009	10	2600	430	No
22	Rotary Club of East Nassau	Service Above Self	1963	47	NDA	NDA	No
23	Sir Charles Hayward Library	Education	1960	59	NDA	3000	No
24	Sister Sister Breast Cancer Group	Women's Health and WellNess	2000	19	2,605	217	No
25	The Bahamas Children's Emergency Hostel	Care for Neglected and Children	1970	49	NDA	NDA	Yes
26	The Bahamas Diabetic Association	Health and WellNess for Diabetics	1986	33	1000	NDA	Yes
27	The Charitable Arts Foundation	Performing Arts and Culture	1995	24	NCM	NCM	NCM
28	The National Lead Institute	Correctional Organization	2009	10	5,000	600	Yes
29	The Nazareth Center	Care and Protection for Children	2001	18	NDA	NDA	Yes
30	The Salvation Army	Service - To Help the downtrodden	1931	88	NDA	NDA	Yes
31	The Salvation Army - Freeport	Service - To Help the downtrodden	1931	88	NDA	NDA	Yes
32	YMCA Grand Bahama	Youth Development & Empowerment	1970	49	NDA	NDA	Yes
Totals					338,255	22,294	
Foot Note:		NDA - No data available	NCM - No contact made				

Social Challenges within The Bahamas

To support the hypothesis that more can be done to diversity and enlarge the scope of NGOs contribution in The Bahamas, it was necessary to ascertain the number and range of social ills presently in the country.

“The Department of Social Services is the lead agency that provides access to all levels of human and welfare services in The Bahamas. Since inception, in 1964, the Department has made it a priority to provide welfare services to the poor, indigent, probationers, adult offenders, juvenile offenders, families and children. Over the years the Department’s services have expanded to address the needs of older persons; persons with disabilities; the unemployed; single parent household; victims of domestic violence; psychiatric patient care; medical patient care, and counseling for individuals, couples, families and groups” (Department of Social Services, Research and Planning Division, November, 2019).

In an interview with K. Miller, (2019, August 15), one of the Welfare Officers at the Department of Social Services, she mentioned that there are several other social ills and areas of concerns being addressed by other agencies of the government. For example, The Crisis Center provides support and assistance to persons challenged with the issues of abuse and abandonment.

Additionally, and according to a Tribune Article written (Gibson, J. 2017) “Bahamas Has ‘Highest Overweight Rate’ In The Caribbean And Latin American”,

“A new report has ranked the Bahamas as the country with the highest percentage of overweight people in Latin American and the Caribbean.

The 2016 report by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) estimates that nearly 70 per cent of the Bahamian population is overweight”.

Consequently, this is now also a major social challenge as it deals with the health and well-being of the Bahamian society. During the interview K. Miller, (2019, August 15), also noted that this social challenge falls under the Ministry of Health. To the point as it relates to diversity and expansion, here in lies an opportunity and area of focus for which an NGO may prove advantageous. Such an organization would assist the government in alleviating the expenses associated with addressing this major national health concern.

Strategies to Diversify and Expand NGOs and Charitable Services in

The Bahamas

Upon completing research based on the crucial areas of investigation and as aforementioned in the introduction, there are no indications of any plans to diversify and expand NGOs and charitable services in the Bahamas. This is not to say that the government is not doing all it can or does not have the well-being of its' citizens at heart, but rather, that seeking to expand NGOs and charitable services in the country is not a typical government agenda item.

Additionally, it was noted that in many instances, "NGOs are usually founded and established by individuals and groups of concerned citizens within their communities and countries". (Binder-Aviles 2012). Such is the case in many instances in The Bahamas as revealed by this study. These people are inspired and encouraged to move to action as a result of their experiences, encounters, involvement and observations. These individuals are other-oriented and socially conscience individuals who often time allow to be awakened in them, the gift and spirit of stewardship.

They are people who sometimes have life changing experiences and decide to make a difference in the world like Oprah Winfrey.

(Robbins, T.) notes that, “Oprah Winfrey is perhaps one of the most impressive of the world’s top celebrity philanthropists because she truly fits the term “self-made.” After growing up in a poor household in Mississippi and enduring sexual-abuse, she still managed to overcome the many obstacles she faced and find major success. Not only has Winfrey brought to light the needs of people around the globe through her talk show and reporting endeavors, but she’s donated millions of dollars through the Oprah Winfrey Charitable Foundation. Her foundation took on most of the responsibilities of the Angel Network and the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy Foundation, contributing more than \$140 million to The Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls. As a philanthropist, she’s also supported causes like Time’s Up, N Street Village and the Museum of African American History and Culture. Oprah is the epitome of philanthropic and has shown that famous philanthropists don’t have to come from wealthy families and that they can choose the causes that have the most meaning for them.

(2019)

Some philanthropists may have had opportunities afforded them that made an indelible impression and/or impact on their lives which moved them to a point beyond self and to service. They are oftentimes wealthy persons who have either inherited significant assets which may alter the course of their lives, and other times “self-made” millionaires as in the case of Oprah Winfrey.

Their assets may include and are not limited to real estate, stocks, bonds, cash, trust funds, foundations and negotiable instruments. These assets transfer to their recipients' financial wealth and influential power. Such kind and notable gestures are received by these people from their parents, guardians, spouses and/or friends and family. The donors, who are oftentimes philanthropic in nature or by circumstance, decide to make a benevolent gesture to them by way of wills, gifts and/or some form of money to establish charities and trust funds.

(Robbins, T.) opines that, "The secret to living is giving. That is to say, by contributing to the well-being of others, our communities and the world at large, we find more meaning in life. Many high-profile people have learned this lesson, choosing to donate their financial resources to communities and causes that need support. Celebrity philanthropists can make a big difference by giving back some of their wealth "and set an important example for their wide fan base. Today's biggest philanthropists take this responsibility very seriously when wielding their influence and dollars alike." (2019)

Consequently, given the nature of the relationship between the donor and recipient and the impact of the gift, these now influential people decide to either continue a legacy of generosity, and/or to establish one as a sign of perpetual memory of the donor and as a sign of humility and gratitude. Hence there are organizations formed which assist in meeting the needs of many persons in various societies.

This research concludes that community leaders, activists, philanthropists and those who engage in the upliftment of others do so because of a genuine love emitting from the "HEART". A Google search found this practical definition and notes that "The

heart is the central or innermost part of something.” (2019). This study suggests and infer that when NGOs are established and begin to do great works in a society, they in many ways become the HEART of that society or the individual community. This belief has promoted the researcher to design and develop a table and corresponding chart. Table 7 displays this studies’ “Characteristics of The HEART and Table 8 represents and expansion of these characteristics in a Chambers of the HEART Operation Model. These charts should serve to support, enhance and encourage NGOs and civic minded individuals to be guided by such a prototypical example in the execution of their charitable endeavors. The table below identifies some nouns and adjectives that names and describes some of the characteristics born out of love, and common to many noble citizens engaged in charitable affairs. The five letters in the first column identified simply spell the word “HEART” and expands each attribute that support its’ acronym.

Table 7 – Characteristics of the HEART

H	Hope	To bring about optimism for the poor, needy, marginalized, youth, elderly, sick, shut in and less fortunate within the society.
E	Empowerment	To bring together like-minded individuals with shared values to assist in bringing about tangible and positive changes within the lives of the beneficiaries, to spur and enable them to become productive citizens within their country.
A	Advocacy	To provide support for as many individuals as possible to realize their dreams so that they may become successful and productive members of their communities.
R	Resourceful	To seek financial assistance, donations and subscriptions to fund charitable organizations agenda and social outreach programs.
T	Teamwork	Driven by tenacity and humility to ensure the attraction and engagement of others to gain the necessary support to sustain charitable organizations.

Table 8 – NGOs Chambers of the HEART Operations Model

HOPE		EMPOWERMENT		ADVOCACY		RESOURCEFUL		TEAMWORK	
H	Helpers of others	E	Encouragers and an inspiration for others	A	Advisers who are thoughtful	R	Resilient in providing funding to benefit	T	Trustworthy and dependable
O	Opportunities for a better life	M	Motivators causing others to move to action in providing assistance	D	Dedicated to good and life changing causes	E	Efficient in managing their affairs	E	Enchanting, keen, passionate toward others
P	People-oriented individuals seeking more for others	P	Philanthropists and participants for change	V	Valiant in their fight for the marginalized	S	Sophisticated in addressing complex issues	A	Ambitious and progressive
E	Enablers empowering others to realize their dreams	O	Organizers by way of influence through participation	O	Obliging to accommodate the needy	O	Observant to the causes they seek to support	M	Magnetic in having the ability to appeal to others
		W	Willing workers committed to the betterment of the others	C	Considerate in their awareness of societal challenges and	U	Unassuming and modest in receiving recognition for	W	Wise in having the wisdom to see beyond oneself
		E	Engagers seeking a way to serve	A	Affluent and affective	R	Relentless and unwavering in the quest to accomplish their	O	Optimistic about the future in providing hope for others
		R	Ready to work to assist the poor	C	Conscientious in their processes	C	Compassionate and caring	R	Reliable, unswerving and consistent in their efforts to
		M	Managers with a budget for charity	Y	Yielding in generosity for the poor	E	Easy-going, relaxed and tolerant of others	K	Kind and generous toward worthy causes
		E	Enchanting with the ability to captivate			F	Friendly and faithful		
		N	Noble in their quest for sharing			U	Unassuming, modest in accepting		
		T	Talented and willing to share their			L	Loyal to their causes		
						L	Loving of humanity		

A guide listing of words and phrases describing many attributes common to individuals who offer their time, talents and treasures to provide relief and support for social challenges. Characteristics and qualities suggested for persons interested in contributing to charitable causes.

Even though it was discovered that there are no plans to expand NGO's in the Bahamas, this investigation revealed that in a few instances the Bahamas government has founded NGOs that provides for and promotes areas of protection and conversation as in the example of the Bahamas National Trust. The Bahamas government does support many of the local NGOs within the country by providing funding by way of grants and other "in-kind" donations; for example, The Children's Emergency Hostel.

Additionally, and more importantly, the Bahamas governments past and present have made significant strides to acknowledge and support the work of NGO's in the country. To this end, a search on the country's government of The Bahamas' local website, Bahamas.gov.bs found:

"NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS BILL, 2018. A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND FOR CONNECTED PURPOSES" (Appendix 5).

This Act was necessary to assist in setting the framework for NGOs that began work in the country to assist in addressing some of the social challenges within the society. It also helps to educate and inform NGOs, charities and other civic organizations. It serves to assist their organizations with guidelines to conform to various standards of operations. This conformity assists in making these establishments eligible for financial assistance and support from the Bahamas government, and both the local and international communities.

Additionally, the government is mindful to keep pace with changes in the industry. It is also mindful to honor its membership obligations and duties in keeping with the terms and the conditions of the international treaties and agreements. To this end the Bahamas government has recently amended its' laws as it relates to the "Non-

Profit Organizations Act, 2019 which was passed in August 2019, in keeping with the requirements of the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). In this regard, the Bahamas government recently passed legislation referred to as “NON- PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS ACT, 2019.” (Appendix 6). This Act sought to make amendments to the preceding Bill, “A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND FOR CONNECTED PURPOSES.” This is the Non-Profit Organizations Bill, 2018 referenced above as (Appendix 5).

To verify the validity and appropriateness of the Acts for inclusion in this research, (S. Saunders, Clerk and G. Major, Supervisor, in an interview November 10, 2019) at Government Publication a (Department of The Bahamas Government), both confirmed that these Bills have been passed and are presently the law governing NGOs in the Bahamas. They also advised that any further information that this study may be privy to, and which they could not confirm from their office, would have to be referred to the House of Assembly.

Consequently, (R. Forbes, in an interview on November 10, 2019) at House of Assembly, Bahamas, confirmed the information provided at Government Publication. It was also noted that any additional information regarding NGOs and not yet passed by the House of Assembly, is either being proposed as a “Bill” and/or is an Agenda item or is pending placement on the Agenda for discussion. In the absence of this occurrence, any additional information is in “draft” form pending its’ next stages of development. That is, the information is being proposed in preparation to become a “Bill” for discussion and subsequent passage if successful and will become law. Or, at its’ initial stage, it is simply a compilation of information in draft form pending further action.

While the government may or may not seek to expand NGOs, due to the number of challenging social ills in the community, it should be grateful when philanthropic individuals find charities to assist in easing the burden of the government. Additionally, the government is doing its' part from a legislative standpoint to regulate and establish guidelines for the operation of NGOs within the country.

“The Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development, through the Department of Gender & Family Affairs, confirmed that the government is making significant strides to assist when and where possible in providing support and assistance to the NGO community. In fact, the government is aware that there is a challenge which is presently under review as it relates to NGOs and their status with regards to registration”.

Dr. Higgs, J. (2019, August 15). Personal Interview.

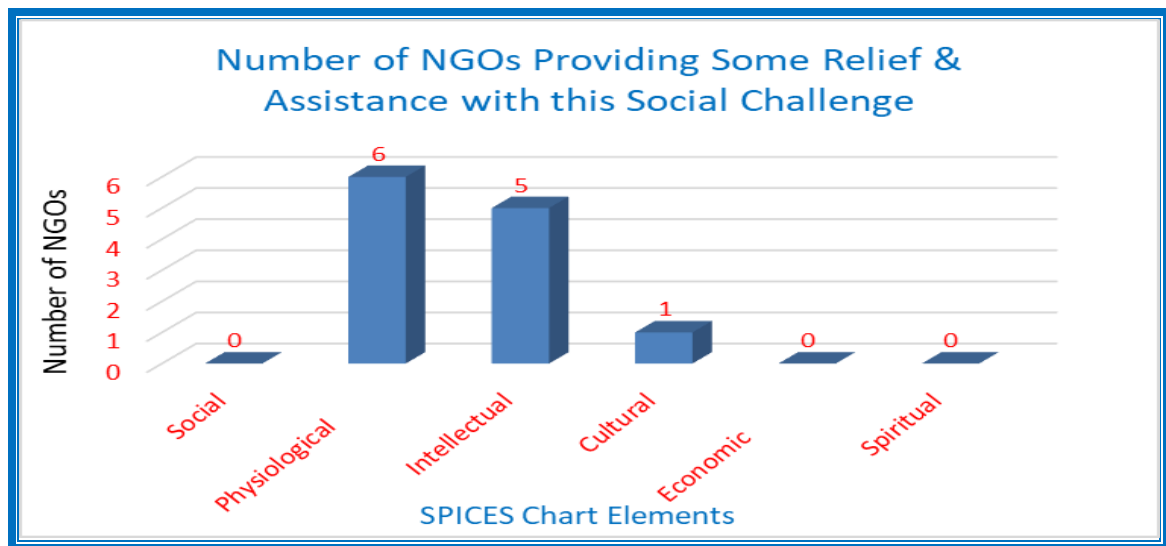
On another occasion while speaking with Dr. Higgs further regarding the social challenges within The Bahamas, she shared her views with reference to a study that she completed many years ago in March 2006. She also mentioned that there is a need to identify and seek ways to address any gaps that exist within the society. Higgs, J. (2019, August 30). Telephone Interview.

Therefore, in an effort to gain another perspective, observe other views, and compare studies as to the gaps in addressing some of the social concerns within The Bahamas, this research was directed to the study, which is Dr. Higgs' dissertation on Colonial Education, African Amnesia: African Diaspora Historical Amnesia in Fox Hill, Bahamas. Embedded in this study is a SPICES Chart which seeks to address the needs of the whole person and the whole community. The SPICES acronym refers to the Social, Psychological, Intellectual, Cultural and Spiritual elements and needs of the individual and strategies to satisfactorily and adequately address the whole community. These elements proved advantageous in using them to assist with identifying some of the

gaps as it relates to social challenges in The Bahamas. As a result of having applied the SPICES Chart elements (Higgs, 2006) to that of the NGO Thematic Analysis (Taylor, 2019), a snapshot of the findings is represented in Table 9 which reflects a Bar Graph and Pie Chart as follows:

Table 9 – NGO Thematic Analysis compared to the SPICES Chart

Bar Graph

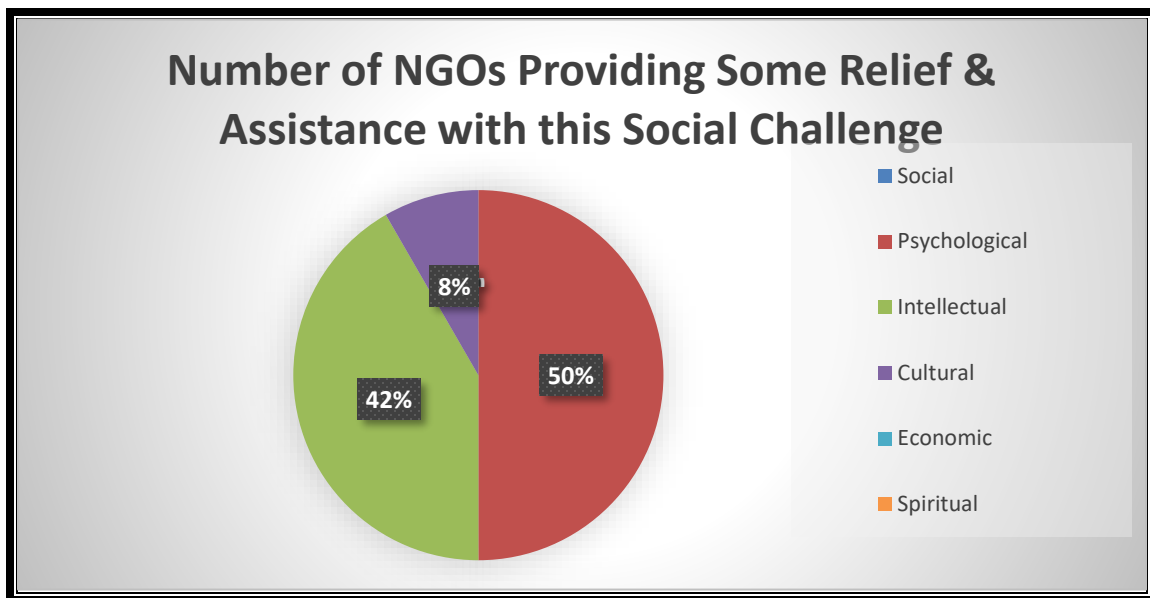


In the Bar Graph above, the information for the vertical axis reflects the number of NGOs providing some relief and assistance with the social challenges as reflected in the NGOs Thematic Analysis (Table 2). The horizontal axis reflects the SPICES Chart Elements provided in the study conducted by Dr. Higgs, J. (2006) p.40. Given the graph represented and based on the NGO Thematic Analysis, while some NGOs are providing relief with regard to the psychological, intellectual and cultural aspects of the SPICES elements, this study's target sample represents that there is a need to address the social, economic and spiritual aspect of social challenges in The Bahamas.

As a point of note and clarification, and contrary to the findings of the graph however, it is noted that the spiritual aspect of The Bahamas' social challenges is being addressed

in many ways. There does exist many religious organizations and outreach ministries that provide social support in these areas (Appendix 4). The spiritual aspect of this study only reflects a deprivation based on the targeted sample of NGOs for this study. Hence, the gaps in this regard are in the areas of social, cultural and the economic elements as they relate to the SPICES chart.

Pie Chart



Note: The **Social**, **Economic** and **Spiritual** elements are not represented in the pie chart.

Taken from another perspective, the Pie Chart is a pictorial representation of the information shared in the Bar Graph. Based on this chart, the vertical axis numbers are represented in the Pie Chart and is reflected in terms of percentages, and only in cases where there is at least some assistance being provided for a social challenge, is that area being represented in the Pie Chart. In other words, based on the SPICES Chart, the social element which is colored blue, the economic element which is colored aqua and the spiritual element which is colored gold are not represented in this pictographic diagram. In these instances, and based on the Bar Graph above, they reflect a numerical value of

zero as these social challenges are, based on this study, not receiving any attention at this time. Hence, there are no slices of the Pie for these elements. There is also no representation for the social challenge colored blue or no slice of the Pie, because it reflects zero assistance. On the other hand, the Pie Chart clearly indicates the slices and percentages for the psychological 50%, intellectual 42% and cultural elements 8%, based on the SPICES Chart.

Observation and Conclusions

Having conducted a broad-spectrum analysis of NGOs in the country, it was discovered that there seems to be a challenge with identity and/or classification of the various charities in the country. The questions seemed to have included, “How does the government sort, group and recognize these organizations? Are they Non-Profit Organization, Charities, Civil Society Organizations or NGOs?”

To assist in answering this question, this research attempted to find some reference as to how to identify and categorize NGOs in relation to their nomenclature and naming convention, but to no avail. What was revealed however, is that the reference and terminologies given to these organizations are often influenced by the values, belief systems, cultures and locations in which they are domiciled. This research includes the revelation of Lewis, (2009) as he found the following:

The world of NGOs contains a bewildering variety of labels. While the term “NGO” is widely used, there are also many other over-lapping terms used such as “non-profit,” “voluntary,” and “civil society” organizations. In many cases, the use of different terms does not reflect descriptive or analytical rigor but is instead a consequence of the different cultures and histories in which thinking about NGOs has emerged. For example, “non-profit organization” is frequently used in the USA, where the market is dominant, and where citizen organizations are rewarded with fiscal benefits if they show that they are not commercial, profit-making entities and work for the public good. In the UK, “voluntary organization”

or “charity” is commonly used, following a long tradition of volunteering and voluntary work that has been informed by Christian values and the development of charity law. But charitable status in the UK depends on an NGO being “non-political,” so that while Oxfam is allowed the formal status of a registered charity (with its associated tax benefits) because of its humanitarian focus, Amnesty International is not, because its work is seen by the Charity Commission as more directly “political.” Finally, the acronym “NGO” tends to be used in relation to international or “developing” country work, since its origin lies in the formation of the United Nations in 1945, when the designation “non-governmental organization” was awarded to certain international non-state organizations that were given consultative status in UN activities (2009, p. 1).

In speaking with one of the founders of one of the NGOs it was shared that this is a matter that is currently being addressed, and that there are individuals who have been identified to assist in this process. Unfortunately, while it is a work in progress this report is unable to provide any results or conclusions on this matter.

Chapter Three

RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES

This study was conducted to review “A broad-spectrum, strategic overview, analysis and proposal to positively diversify and broaden the impact and significantly affect Non-Governmental Organizations contribution in the Bahamas. This is a practical area of concern, in which this investigation may in some way aid the hypothesis that there is a need to diversify and increase NGOs contribution in the country.

The researcher wanted to explore from a targeted sample of NGOs their strategic and overall prospective relative to the nature of their organizations. This step was followed by making comparisons to align related or similar NGOs. This process helped to identify where possible duplications and or overlapping of efforts may have occurred and to highlight areas of social challenges not identified or inadequately addressed.

Research Design

In order to understand the present level of NGOs contribution in the Bahamas, it was compulsory that this research gather primary and secondary data from government ministries, agencies and their respective representatives, as well as research the present list of registered NGOs. This exercise provided a general overview of the present level of diversification and social challenging areas that are presently receiving some level of attention in the Bahamas. The main aspect of the design utilized a questionnaire in the form of a survey to gather targeted information to provide an overview on the analysis.

Participants

For the purpose of this study, the list of contributors included the following:

1. Attorney General's Office
2. Department of Gender & Family Affairs
3. Department of Social Services
4. Department of Statistics
5. Government Publications
6. House of Assembly (Parliament)
7. Ministry of Finance
8. Ministry of Social Services & Urban Development
9. Registrar General's Department
10. All NGOs included on the Department of Inland Revenue's List of Registered Non-Governmental Organizations in the Bahamas

Research Instrument, Sources & Data Collection

To begin the process of data collection for the research the following steps were engaged:

1. Brainstorming to determine the best way forward in retrieving information for the study.
2. Compiling a list of pertinent questions to gather the necessary data to use for presentation in the study.
3. Designing an information guide table to identify areas of concentration for the study, and to explain the importance of each category of information.
4. Designing an instrument in the form of an appropriate and effective questionnaire (survey) to invite responses and aid completion of the information gathering process.

To provide qualitative and quantitative data for the analysis a mixed approach of research methods was used to gather information. These methods included web and Google searches, a questionnaire, telephone calls, articles and interviews. To assist with the compilation of information for this study, more than five hundred (500) pages of material was analyzed. Seventy-five (75) website searches were conducted to gather initial information and obtain email addresses. The email addresses aided the process of dispatching thirty (30) questionnaires to the respondents (NGOs). One hundred (100) telephone calls were made to contact relevant government agencies to obtain pertinent information for this research; inclusive of calls (second and third attempts) made to NGO's to gather information for questionnaires that were not returned and to ascertain data that the questionnaires failed to reveal in its' initial attempt to retrieve information.

This research was also successful in conducting eight (8) interviews (seven {7} local and one {1} international) with NGO representatives that were available during the time of calls made in a second attempt to gather targeted information.

A cover letter and the questionnaires were dispatched to the respondents and they were given a month to reply with their responses. Once the data was received, selected information was compiled and collated in the NGOs Comparative Analysis and Impact Chart, which is situated under “The Impact of the Present number of NGOs within the Society” section of this report (Table 2). Qualitatively, the information provides the NGO’s name, founder(s), main area(s) of focus, date founded, years of operations and an indication as to if the NGO is presently receiving assistance from the government or not. Quantitatively, the information provided the NGO’s impact since inception and current level of impact.

Given the targeted sample of 32 NGOs, this mixed approach research methodology proved effective because it decreased the amount of time needed for interviews given the busy nature of the NGO representatives.

For the purpose of this study, the information gathered is enough to provide a reasonable overview of the present challenges in the Bahamas. It is also adequate to ascertain a spectrum of the level of the impact and amount of contributions that are being made by the existing targeted NGOs in the country. While there were a few challenges with the process, the limitations of the study are provided in chapter one under the introduction section of this report.

Chapter Four

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

Results from The Questionnaire

The NGO's Comparative Analysis & Impact Chart above reflects information gathered from the NGOs Questionnaire (Table 2). This chart reflects information taken from questions 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, and 11. This research attempted to ascertain some differentiation regarding more specifics as it related to the NGOs' main area(s) of focus which was given in response to question 3. Since the responses to questions 4, 5 & 6 in many ways mirrored those of question no. 3, these questions and their responses have not been isolated for further review. The following exhibit reflects the remaining questions inclusive of 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 and their results based on feedback:

Table 3

Results & Responses from NGO's Questionnaire				
No.	Questions	Reponses		
		Yes	No	NDA & / or INR
9	Do you feel that you can impact more persons at this time?	27	0	5
11	Are you presently receiving financial assistance from the government?	19	8	5
12	Are you receiving financial assistance locally from private persons and/or other organizations?	27	0	5
13	Are you receiving financial assistance from any international sources?	26	1	5
14	Do you conduct any fund-raising activities?	27	0	5
15	Based on your experiences to date, do you think we need other charities to address other areas of social concerns within the Bahamas? If yes, what areas or suggestions would you like to mention?	27	0	5
16	Do you feel the government should do more to recognize NGOs in the country?	27	0	5
Note: NDA = No data available INR - Information not received				

1. Does your organization impact or has one main area of focus, or do you focus on a cross-section of the social needs in our society? Please explain.

In response to question number 10 above, and exclusive of the 3 NGOs for which no contact was made, the remaining NGOs, although focused on their main area of concentration, have assisted in other areas of social concerns.

17. If you answered yes to question number 16, what would you like to see the government do, or what would you recommend? Please explain.

With reference to question number 17 above the following responses were given:

“Legislation regarding non-profits is being reformed, so we’ll see how it is after that. Maybe the government can give communities the support they need to organize new NGOs and become officially registered, this would be of benefit to them since many NGOs often fill gaps left by government or supplement government services.”

“Bring into force the Civil Society Act to empower Non-Profit Organizations.”

“Strengthen three types of programs for youth: Preventative, At Risk and Restoration in addition to elderly health care, safety and housing.”

In addition to the responses taken from the questionnaires above, several of the respondents also expressed interest in being included on the list of NGOs that are receiving funding and subventions. Others have suggested that their contributions could be increased to assist in alleviating the strain brought on by the increase in needed services and to avoid ever having to turn away persons in need.

Based on the feedback from the list of registered NGOs in the Bahamas, while the country has made some strides toward addressing some aspects of social issues, there is still much room for improvement. It should be noted however, that based on the comparative analysis and impact chart above, and the results and responses from the questionnaire, the impact of NGOs since their inception has been and is

presently significant. The simple fact of the matter is, had nothing been done this report would not be possible. Consequently, the initiatives and efforts from the NGOs are noteworthy and must be commended.

Furthermore, through their combined efforts to date, since inception these organizations have impacted a total of 338,255 individuals in the Bahamian society as at the time of this research in the summer of 2019 (Table 2). For the same period and on an annual basis they continue to impact approximately 22,294 individuals (Table 2). It must be noted however, that given the limitations of this research, these numbers are not an accurate reflection of the total contribution of NGOs and their impact in the Bahamas. That is the case because in far too many instances a detailed and accurate accounting of impact and contribution is not presently recorded for many of the NGOs.

As a point of clarification, it is noted that the 338,255 individuals may and would include repeat citizens who represent themselves for further assistance when and where necessary, or until such time as their circumstances are improved and they can more adequately provide for themselves. In this regard, the accuracy of the numbers would be inconclusive if considered on an individual and case by case basis. Moreover, to quantify the level of impact is not for the purpose of accuracy. Rather, it is intended to gain an appreciation of the approximate number of persons impacted and the level of contributions made by the NGOs in addressing some of the social challenges in the society.

Additionally, it may also serve to provide the government with an idea of the number of persons being impacted within the community. Moreover, it should bring to the attention of the government, the level of dedication and support from the civic and

philanthropic society, in cases where it may not be aware of such contributions. This society assists in easing the burden of the government in providing supplementary financial and social support which affords the government the opportunity to focus on many other areas of concerns.

The analysis for the present situation and level of contribution within the society (Table 2) display some areas in which some social challenges are being addressed. These include education as it relates to cultural activities for the youths, behavioral correction, cancer, evangelization, environmental awareness, conservation, protection, preservation, teen pregnancy, women's health, awareness, wellness, treatment, alcohol and drug abuse and social support networks and organizations.

There is also quite a bit of necessary attention in the area of child abuse and support, in addition to attending to the needs of the poor with emphasis on alleviating hunger and suffering within the country.

Based on the information collected and collated to produce the comparative analysis provided in Table 2, some aspects of themes emerged. In a conversation with the Dr. Davis, Chair, of The School of Business and Hospitality Management at the University of The Bahamas, he noted that "When conducting research on qualitative information, and in instances where there is a duplication or continuous repeating of data, this should be analyzed for further review as the results often reflects "themes" and the information may be presented using Thematic Analysis". Davis, G. (2019, August 30). Personal Interview.

These themes were evident as it relates to the "duplication" (in a positive way) and shared efforts in providing service and assistance by various NGOs. As they responded regarding their area(s) of focus, while the terminologies may have differed in

name, the services and their similarities necessitated an analysis as it relates to themes.

To provide another prospective in representation to the qualitative data gathered, this research was directed to and found the following article by Caufield, J. (2019):

“Thematic analysis is a method of analyzing qualitative data. It is usually applied to a set of texts, such as interview transcripts. The researcher closely examines the data to identify common themes – topics, ideas and patterns of meaning that come up repeatedly. There are various approaches to conducting thematic analysis, but the most common form follows a six-step process:

1. Familiarization
2. Coding
3. Generating themes
4. Reviewing themes
5. Defining and naming themes
6. Writing up

Thematic analysis is a flexible method that can be adapted to the purposes of your research.”

To generate a deeper appreciation of this analysis, extracted from The Impact of the Present Number of NGOs within the Society (NGOs Comparative Analysis & Impact Chart, (Table 2), is another chart label NGOs Thematic Analysis (Table 4). This Table is a “Comparative Analysis & Grouping Chart, which illustrates by “familiarization, generating themes, reviewing themes, defining and naming themes and grouping” the NGOs whose services and assistance are in some instances singular, but more predominately multifaceted and overlaps as it relates to their services and contributions within the society.

Table 4: NGOs Thematic Analysis

NGOs Thematic Analysis		
	List of Registered Non-Governmental Organizations	Social Challenges Receiving Assistance from an Overlapping Group of NGOs in the undernoted (Areas of Focus)
1	Adventure Learning Center	Education, health, wellness, conservation
2	Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation*	Education, health, wellness, conservation
3	Friends of the Environment	Education, health, wellness, conservation
4	Pace Foundation	Education, health, wellness, conservation
5	Sir Charles Hayward Library	Education, health, wellness, conservation
6	Bahamas Association for Social Health	Substance Abuse
7	Bahamas Humane Society	Animal Care and Protection
8	Bahamas National Trust	Conservation, Preservation and Protection of The Environment
9	Coalition to Save Clifton (Save the Bays)	Conservation, Preservation and Protection of The Environment
10	One Eleuthera Foundation	Conservation, Preservation and Protection of The Environment
11	The British Legion Bahamas	Veteran Care & Support for Spouses
12	Grand Bahamas Children's Home	Care & Protection of Children
13	The Bahamas Children's Emergency Hostel	Care & Protection of Children
14	The Nazareth Center	Care & Protection of Children
15	Hands for Hunger	Alleviating Hungry in the Society
16	Red Cross Society of the Bahamas	Alleviating suffering, Health,Wellness
17	Red Cross Society of the Bahamas - Abaco	Alleviating suffering, Health,Wellness
18	Red Cross Society of the Bahamas-G.B.	Alleviating suffering, Health,Wellness
19	The Salvation Army	Alleviating suffering, Health,Wellness
20	The Salvation Army - Freeport	Alleviating suffering, Health,Wellness
21	Pace Foundation	Teen Pregnancy & Education
22	Ride for Hope	Cancer & Women's Health
23	Sister Sister Breast Cancer Group	Cancer & Women's Health
24	The Bahamas Diabetic Association	Health and Wellness for Diabetics
25	The Charitable Arts Foundation	Performing Arts and Culture
26	The National Lead Institute	Correctional Behavior
27	Bahamas Urban Youth Dev. Center	Youth Development & Empowerment
28	Governor's General Youth Award (GGYA)	Youth Development & Empowerment
29	Freeport Rugby & Football Club	Youth Development & Empowerment
30	The Rotary Club of East Nassau	Youth Development & Empowerment
31	YMCA Grand Bahama	Youth Development & Empowerment
32	Pilot Club of Nassau	NCM

Findings

The main goal of this investigation was to assess the level of impact of NGO's in the Bahamas. Consideration was given to the population size compared to that of the number of NGOs in the country. In reference to the population of the Bahamas at this time, the Department of Statistics (2019) found that the population is estimated at approximately 390,000. On the other hand, this research conducted simultaneously found that there are 32 registered NGOs in the Bahamas, who are duly recognized to take full advantage of all the opportunities available to them as registered NGOs.

Based on the research conducted, there does not exist any past theory or study on this subject. Therefore, given the population size, and the hypothesis that there is a need for more NGOs in the country, this study's argument is supported as there is a great disparity with the ratio indication of 390,000 in population size compared to 32 "registered" NGOs in the Bahamas.

The Registrar General's Office (2019), "Registered List of Non-Profits" indicate that there are 1,255 NGO's in the Bahamas (Appendix 4). However, off the 1,255 NGO's only 32 are mentioned on the Department of Inland Revenue's "List of Registered Non-Governmental Organizations" in the country (Appendix 4). Deductively, this list could be reduced to 29 NGOs as in the case of The Bahamas Red Cross Society, there are 3 physical locations inclusive of the Headquarters situated on the island of New Providence, and 2 branches with one situated on the island of Abaco and the other the island of Grand Bahama. Additionally, in the instance of The Salvation Army, there are 2 physical locations inclusive of the Headquarters situated on the island of New Providence, and there is also a branch in the city of Freeport on the island of Grand Bahama.

It was also discovered that of all the NGOs listed the areas of social concerns that are presently experiencing some level of assistance includes the following: Education as it relates to cultural activities for the youths, behavioral correction, cancer, evangelization, environmental awareness, conservation, protection, preservation, teen pregnancy, women's health, awareness, wellness, treatment, alcohol and drug abuse.

Of the 32 NGO's five of them are engaged in providing some form of education or the other. One of the NGOs focuses on substance abuse and one also focuses on animal care and protection. Three of the NGOs focus on conservation, preservation and protection of the environment and four others also focuses their attention on the development and empowerment of people in general and youth training more specifically. One of these organizations focuses its' attention on the care and support of veterans and their spouses, three focuses on the care and protection of children, and another one is focused on alleviating hunger in the society.

Two NGOs comprising of five outlets are focused on providing social welfare to alleviate suffering and providing health and wellness services in the country. One NGO is focused on teen pregnancy and two others are engaged in providing educational health and wellness for cancer survivors. Finally, one NGO focuses on health and wellness for diabetics, another focuses on the performing arts and culture and the final one focuses on correctional behavior for men in the society.

A summary of the findings regarding the grouping and overlapping of NGOs in The Bahamas is demonstrated in the Comparative Analysis & Grouping Chart (Table 5) & NGOs Grouping Graph, (Table 6) which follows:

Table 5: NGOs Grouping Chart (Data extracted from Table 4)

NGOs Grouping Chart	
Social Challenges Receiving Assistance	NGOs Assisting with Social Challenges in this Area of Focus
Education, health, wellness, conservation	5
Substance Abuse	1
Animal Care and Protection	1
Conservation, Preservation and Protection of The Environment	3
Veteran Care & Support for Spouses	1
Care & Protection of Children	3
Alleviating Hungry in the Society	1
Alleviating suffering, Health,Wellness	5
Teen Pregnancy & Education	1
Cancer & Women's Health	2
Health and Wellness for Diabetics	1
Performing Arts and Culture	1
Correctional Behavior	1
Youth Development & Empowerment	5

As it relates to this study, the above chart reflects that when grouped by themes, there are at least 14 overlapping social challenges that are receiving some form of assistance in the country. The **gaps** (areas of opportunities for diversification and expansion of NGOs) from this analysis include **Education as it relates to Academics and Science, Healthcare as it relates to Obesity, and Sports.**

Table 6: NGOs Grouping Bar Graph (Data extracted from Table 5)



In conclusion to the findings elaborated and based on the various analysis in the tables and charts presented, some of the gaps in terms of social challenges have become apparent and have been manifested as a result of this study. There seems to be lacking a concentrated and directed focus on academic and scientific education, healthcare with regards to obesity, and special emphasis to place serious focus and interest on the development of sports in the country. These are three examples of areas of deficiencies and gaps discovered as a result of this research, which speaks to the need of broadening the scope for diversification and expansion of NGOs in The Bahamas. Additionally, as another prospective and based on the NGO Thematic Analysis compared to the SPICES Chart (Table 9), there are also gaps as it relates to the social, economic and cultural elements and needs of the society as it relates to the social challenge deficiencies as it relates to the SPICES chart.

Academic and scientific education would go a long way in bolstering and assisting the Bahamas in educational and scientific growth and development. Health is crucial to the sustainability and survivability of the Bahamas because a healthy Bahamas contributes to a wealthy Bahamas. Therefore, finding ways to assist and support all efforts with regards to obesity would be significantly beneficial to the Bahamas' growth and development.

Socially, many of the Bahamas' youth and young adults are very athletic and would welcome the opportunity for new and improved sporting facilities that are state of the art and meets internationally recognized standards. This would facilitate an environment for athletic training and skill development which would lead to opportunities for scholarships to pursue their athletic aspirations to realize the dreams.

Discussions

The objective of the study was to explore the strategies and actions taken to date to ascertain the level of impact on the society. It also sought to identify areas that need attention, gaps; while considering the findings, interpretations, contrasts among NGOs and observations, comparisons, limitations of the study and implications of the findings, to make suggestions and recommendations for future research.

This exercise sought to assist in providing a proposal for another way forward; and to add to other supporting strategies to address the level of NGO's contributions in the Bahamas. Additionally, it sought to cause an increase in the number of charitable activities which will provide positive sustaining and supporting advantageous opportunities for NGOs. Additionally, this study intended to encourage positive movements to effect uplifting and advancement efforts for long ranging goals and far reaching outcomes. Moreover, it intended to positively impact the development of the under-privileged and less fortunate brothers and sisters within the Bahamian society.

Interpretations, Contrasts Among NGOs and General Observations

For the most part, there is a reasonable cross section of social ills being addressed in the country. One of the outstanding issues may be to ascertain the areas of concentration in which these social assistance services are being provided.

The five NGOs focused on some aspect of education in the society includes, Adventure Learning Center, Bahamas Reef Environmental Education Foundation, Friends of the Environment, Pace Foundation and Sir Charles Hayward Library. Given this list, it should be noted that the span of education appears to be limited to health, awareness of specific issues which relates to wellness, prevention, conservation,

preservation and protection of the environment. What appears to be lacking in this list of topic areas is a further and deeper concentration of academic and scientific education; geared toward increasing the knowledge base, ingenuity and creativity of a more diverse academic pool of scholars in the country.

Bahamas Association for Social Health is the one NGO that focuses on substance abuse, this is inadequate to service a population of 390,000. Similar organizations or branches of this nature would do well to be established in zones strategically identified to service a wider population in the inner city and suburbs in the society.

With reference to the care and protection of animals, the Bahamas Humane Society is the one organization that engages this challenge and seems to be doing a great job thus far. This search also revealed that this NGO also accommodates persons from within the community providing other social assistance with food and basic personal items as their means allow. While this NGO does receive some assistance from the government, it is said to be minimal and inadequate to supplement the scope of assistance that it provides. To this end, additional funding would go a long way in easing the burden of providing these services and ensuring it has a greater and further far-reaching impact within the society.

The Bahamas National Trust, Coalition to Save Clifton (Save the Bays) and One Eleuthera Foundation are presently the only three NGOs engaged in conservation, preservation and protection of the environment. While two of these focus on a particular aspect of the environment or island, and the other focuses on the bays, at least one of them, the Bahamas National Trust has a national focus which would make this area of social concern seem adequately covered with attention and focus for the

time being. Overtime, an extension of this sector would be advantageous to consider a broader outlook of the environment, which places emphasis on and oversight of each island in the country with the Bahamas National Trust noted as the hub for this area of national interest.

The British Legion Bahamas Branch focuses on the care and support of veterans and their spouses. It was noted in one of the interviews regarding this NGO that it is a dying organization. This was noted because there are only 7 survivors out of the 1,000 for which this NGO was established.

The Bahamas Children's Emergency Hostel, Grand Bahama Children's Home and The Nazareth Center are the three reported NGOs that focuses on the care and protection of children. Given the rate of abuse and neglect for children, this would be an insufficient number, as the Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development could always use additional assistance in this regard. As the populations grows, and the more ill prepared the society is socially and academically, this fuels unemployment and abuse in the society. There may always exist a need to provide care and protection for children. The challenge is to provide such assistance in as many areas as possible to alleviate the concentration and strain in one area and on few outreach centers.

This research revealed that Hands for Hunger is the only registered NGO engaged in feeding the poor and hungry as a primary focus within the society. Despite this fact, this NGO can boast of doing a phenomenal job in this area of concentration. It seems to be a well-organized and well managed NGO which has garnered much support locally and internationally. It is believed however, that branches of this operation and or others similar in nature would do well in taking this service to other areas of need within and throughout the society.

The Red Cross Society of the Bahamas and the Salvation Army are the two

NGOs which encompass five outlets providing social services aimed at alleviating suffering; while promoting health and wellness and providing basic services to under privilege and less fortunate brothers and sisters in the Bahamian society. Together, these NGOs do an awesome job. The challenges they face are great and vary in issues and concerns requiring their assistance and support. Additional branches and centers will assist in providing relief to these NGOs. Should this not materialize, new NGOs could emerge to address some aspects of the challenges in which they may be experiencing challenges to offer certain services.

Pace Foundation is the singular NGO with focused assistance on teen pregnancy and is also noted in the list of NGOs assisting with education in this regard. Based on the growing number of teen pregnancy in the country it may be inferred that this lone NGO is insufficient to provide the assistance needed within the society. To this end, one can only hope that more awareness may be brought to this area of concern. Such awareness could spur new interests and hopefully bring about additional relief.

Ride for Hope and Sister, Sister Breast Cancer Group are the two NGOs that are focused on the women's education, health, wellness and survival of cancer. Together these NGO's make a valuable contribution to the society in their efforts to support and encourage women in the country. They are indeed a source of hope and encouragement and are worthy of all the recognition assistance and support that they can garner. To this end, the investigations revealed that the Sister, Sister Breast Cancer Group needs further funding and support to provide more services to many other women in need. In fact, their funding has been strained because they assist the government, as the Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development has been referring women in need of assistance to the Sister, Sister Breast Cancer Group. While

the group has not turned away any of these women, they have been assisting them. Consequently, their generosity places a burden on their resources, as their kindness leaves their members funding depleted and in dire need of replenishment so that they can continue making positive and generous contributions to women in need in the Bahamas.

The Bahamas Diabetic Association's focuses on health and wellness for diabetics and The Charitable Arts Foundation focuses on the performing arts and culture. With reference to both NGOs it was a challenge to contact these organizations, hence this report is only limited to the information retrieved from the organization's website as indicated on the Analysis Chart (Table 2). It is noted however that the Bahamas Diabetic Association has been around for more than 33 years. This is noteworthy, and such an organization may only need continued financial support to ensure that its' outreach and community services reaches as many persons in need as possible. On the other hand, The Charitable Arts Foundation has been around for more than 24 years, and serves a noteworthy cause providing opportunities for individuals with cultural interests and artistic skills and aspirations. It appears in the case of The Bahamas Diabetic Association that for the time being this NGO is to the best of its' abilities fulfilling the mandate of the operation with the resources currently available to the organization.

The National Lead Institute is the only correctional organization that was found based on the targeted sample of this research process. Its' mission and focus are vital to the country and the organization appears to be doing a great job with the rehabilitation, transformation and correction of many of our young men in the society. In this instance and for the time being, this NGO would do well to be supported financially. It seems to

have the capacity to duplicate itself, to make its' services accessible to the wider community and individuals who would like to benefit from such support and assistance.

Causal Argument

It may be inferred that the Bahamas has faced budgetary issues and challenges as a result of its' population size. This argument may include the fact that there are many social and national challenges inclusive of illegal immigration, trafficking in persons, health care, and unemployment to name a few, which consequently resulted in the increased need for social assistance.

The above are examples of the more obvious causal factors negatively impacting the strain on the Bahamian economy and society. This general observation has significant and far reaching implications, the likes of which may not have been holistically explored and examined up to this point in the country's national outlook. If it has however, then more should be done to firmly make strides at reducing the strain on the economy and to ensure residents receive the necessary social welfare assistance needed.

Additionally, the inevitable increasing cost of health care, food, clothing, feeding the poor and hungry, and providing other essential services support the fact that there is additional strain on the country as it relates to making provisions for many of the present social ills which plague the Bahamas.

The Bahamas's government is mindful and is making strides toward this end. To support this statement, a simple fact is that the Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development's budget is regularly adjusted according to the needs and demands of the society. The budget is sometimes decreased in some areas requiring less focus, during a budget cycle, as it relates to a decrease in demand for social service

assistance in a specific area. On the other hand, the budget is often time increased in a budget cycle, in making strides toward alleviating social ills particularly as they arise, and social ills in general within the county. “Although the Department of Social Services had a 1.7 percent decrease overall in line with the general practice of more precise budgeting, we increased the budget allocation significantly in the most important areas; specifically, the overall social assistance benefits allocation by \$1.6 million in the upcoming budget year,”. Jones Jr., R. (2019, June 19). Turnquest: Social assistance programs bolstered, not cut.

Speculation and Deductive Argument

While this research is not all-inclusive based on the scope and focus of the selected target NGOs investigated in this study, the results and findings of this work does offer the following speculation and deductive argument. During the investigations it was observed that within and throughout many communities that there are many other unregistered NGOs in the Bahamas. Many may also be found in the local telephone directory and on social media. Therefore, it is safe to infer that many of our less fortunate brothers and sisters are receiving additional assistance and relief for various social concerns that are not represented by the NGOs interviewed for this research. It is relatively safe to infer that some of these efforts may be duplicated regarding the distribution of services in the community and as reflected similarly in the Thematic Analysis of this study. In this regard, while duplication of efforts is not a concern, it would be advantageous to ensure that similar services are coordinated and more evenly dispersed throughout the communities. This approach would ensure that more persons have access to social relief within the society.

Implications of Findings

Theoretically, this research serves to begin the discussion on giving more attention to the contribution of NGOs in the country. It does not add to any established theories or research on NGOs. In fact, it could become the foundation upon which new discussions may be had regarding the way forward in expanding the scope of NGOs, increasing the number of NGOs and securing additional financial and in-kind support for NGOs.

In practice, this research can assist the government in broadening its' scope and assistance in providing support and relief for social challenges in the country. It will help the government, and it could be noted by the government, that it should pay more attention to the valuable contributions of NGOs. The time had to be invested to gather the initial information to begin the discussion to make financial decisions regarding support of the NGOs that are presently not receiving any assistance.

The "NGOs Comparative Analysis & Impact Chart" (Table 2), should serve as a good practical reference exhibit or supporting document. It may be used to provide some level of statistical information to justify requests, support applications to establish new NGOs and as a means of support to seek financial assistance for new and established NGOs.

Chapter Five:

RECOMMENDATIONS

Suggestions for Future Research

Given this inaugural research exercise and the impact of its' findings, it is recommended that another research be conducted sometime in the future. The second study should go even further than this initial report to include all NGOs within The

Bahamas of which there are at least 1,255 (Appendix 4). A review of 34 pages from the Registrar General's list of NGOs was conducted. Based on identifying religious groups by nomenclature inclusive of names associated with such NGOs, the analysis identified approximately 550 religious' organizations. The other approximately 705 organizations include a broader spectrum of organizations that were included on the list.

Unfortunately, many of these are only listed and reflected as NGO's because they would have been registered at a point in time. Hence, this list should be reorganized and categorized to include separate specific groups. This will also assist in identifying NGOs that are inoperable and reflect a more updated and accurate report of "registered" NGOs. Additionally, they should be categorized as either religious, charitable, educational, scientific, environment, historical, cultural, fraternal, literacy, sporting, artistic, or promoting health. This strategic exercise is imperative and highly recommended to separate, distinguish and more accurately identify the nature of the NGOs regarding their roles and purposes. In this exercise, the government will hopefully learn of a more accurate number of NGOs that exist within the country as the second research would go well beyond the scope of the first. In fact, the Ministry of Social Services & Urban Development in general, and its Department of Gender & Family Affairs in particular, would find such information most advantageous in the execution of their duties in support of NGOs.

Furthermore, efforts can be made to encourage and support the fact that NGOs should be thoroughly and duly registered to legitimize their existence, by way of registration and compliance. Moreover, they will become more easily recognized and qualified to receive national and international support and financial assistance.

Finally, and with reference to the second self-inflicted limitation noted above, another futuristic research could explore a way of sharing more detailed information on

each NGO. Given one's perspective, a minor or major obstacle could be that to provide this information may be an arduous task, but this challenge could spark a more ingenious way to accomplish this goal.

Recommendations for NGOs

To provide some feedback as a result of the information gathered with the support and assistance of the NGO community, suggestions and recommendations to improve their contribution to the Bahamian society are as follows:

1. "Periodically review and reaffirm the mission of an NGO's ongoing strategic planning process. If at any point your staff, board and key volunteers disagree about what your founders and partners show signs of losing confidence, that might signal the need to revisit your mission" (Binder-Aviles, 2012).
2. If an NGO does not already do so, begin to conduct regular record keeping and tracking exercises on a daily, monthly and annual basis. In doing so the NGO may at any point in time, be able to provide tracking, accounting and record keeping information without delay. Such easily accessible information would significantly assist and support the government from a projecting, analysis and budgetary point of view. Moreover, this will assist your organization in its forecasting and budgetary exercises. If an NGO is already tracking information and keeping good accounting information and records, continue to do so and be reminded to occasionally tweak and improve the process when and wherever necessary.

3. If an NGO does not have a telephone listing, and or a website, it should be encouraged to ensure that their organization's telephone number is listed in the local directory. The organization should be encouraged to ensure that it establish a website to provide potential founders, donors, subscribers and the government with relevant information about their NGO. It should make sure to note and detail the significant contributions that their organization is making in the society. If the NGO's telephone number is listed and it has already established a website, it should be checked to ensure that the contact information and numbers are current and operational. Additionally, leaders and members of all NGOs should be required to provide regular routine checks to update their NGO's website.

4. NGOs should ensure that they are in full compliance with the rules, regulations, requirements and laws governing their operations within The Bahamas.

Recommendations for the Government of The Bahamas

It is further recommended that this report should be given to the Ministry of Social Services & Urban Development, specially, the Department of Gender and Family Affairs who has developed more than thirty years of working with NGOs. The existing Senior Social Services Officer with responsibility to liaise with NGOs in the country should be responsible for working closely with the NGOs to assist with their training needs and execution of their services. This representative may also be allowed to coordinate social assistance and support between the government and the respective NGOs. In October 2018, the Minister of Social Services and Urban Development provided more

than \$30,000 of grants to numerous NGOs during a government and civil society partnership ceremony. Additionally, according to the Bahamas National Government Budget allocations for 2018.2019, the Ministry of Social Services dispensed more than \$5,000,000 to NGOs and the collective allocation for NGOs from all ministries combined was more than \$300,000,000 to facilitate the execution of a broad spectrum of services, trainings and programs.

While not specifically inappropriately and intrusively interfering with the administrative, strategic, personal and confidential aspects of the NGOs operations and financial circumstances, the government should direct the review of the registry of NGOs to ascertain the level of assistance necessary to operate the governments aspects of the NGO's portfolio.

Once this is accomplished, a report should be presented to the Cabinet, with recommendations which may provide vital information and financial projections that may guide government officials to more efficiently assist each NGO that requires assistance. All ministers may then present their ministry's budget to the Minister of Finance, petitioning for financial support by way of government grants and subsidies on behalf of not some, but all NGOs who would welcome and accept such financial assistance and support.

Finally, if it does not already do so, the government must find a strategic, effective and monumental way to acknowledge, highlight, commend and recognize the contributions of NGOs, CSOs, Charities, Non-Profits, civil society Bahamas, their founders, executive directors, representatives, management and staff. This would go a long way in the government expressing gratitude and appreciation for the efforts of this community. In fact, it is also recommended that any banquet or gesture to facilitate such recognition may be done in an event to raise funds, by the selling of tickets,

banquet tables, ads and sponsorship booklets, the proceeds of which could be shared and distributed among the member organizations (NGOs) of civil society community.

Recommendations for Other NGOs

This research found resourceful and foundational information in the NGO Handbook, which provided an insightful overview of NGOs and crucial information for this study. This material is crucial as a resource in reference to recommendations for other NGOs. (Binder-Aviles, 2012) “Solutions to large global challenges often start with small, local actions. When you see a need or a problem in your community, you can make a difference by standing up and taking action.”

Unlike proven, well established and multi-faceted NGOs like the Red Cross Society of the Bahamas and The Salvation Army, it is recommended that new organizations seek guidance on the way forward before setting up such an organization. As it relates to diversifying or enlarging the scope of an NGO, it is important to fortify the organization. (Binder-Aviles, 2012) “Even if you have a lot of good ideas, start small. Pick one or two projects that your group can do well. By doing one or two projects well the NGO builds a track record of success and learns what it takes to be effective.”

As it relates to addressing community needs, “An NGO must be able to translate its mission into projects and activities that have measurable impacts welcomed by the community.” (Binder-Aviles, 2012).

A positive outcome of this research is to foreshadow additional ways to move forward. To do so, it would be advantageous to support the hypothesis that there is a

need and note that more can be done to positively diversify, broaden the impact and significantly affect NGOs contribution in the Bahamas.

Based on the interpretation, contrasts among NGOs and general observations above, this study directs its' attention to education, an aspect of healthcare and sports to propose expansion and diversification. To this end, it is restated that "The five NGOs focused on some aspect of education in the society includes, Adventure Learning Center, Bahamas Reef Environmental Education Foundation, Friends of the Environment, Pace Foundation and Sir Charles Hayward Library. Given this list, it should be noted that the span of education appears to be limited to certain areas and aspects of health, awareness of specific issues and concerns, wellness, prevention, conservation, preservation and protection of the environment. What is lacking in this list of topic areas is a further and deeper concentration of academic and scientific education; geared toward increasing the knowledge base, ingenuity and creativity of a more diverse academic pool of scholars in the country."

Other NGOs to positively diversify and broaden the impact of social cognizance is central to the discussion of significantly impacting social ills by way of contribution whether financially or in-kind. Hence, it is recommended that more NGOs with a focus on academic and scientific education, health care and sports be established to expand the scope of awareness and contribution in the Bahamian society. Academically and scientifically, the society can use more assistance by way of supporting students who aspire to further their education, but are unable to do so, due to a lack of resources.

There are far too many ambitious and industrious students and individuals in the society who are unable to further their education relative to their dreams. In these dreams are opportunities to become skilled professionals and specialists who can add

significant value to the Bahamian economy and society. It is noted that the government is making strides to make education accessible to more of its citizens, but this proposal envisages education, training and development beyond the scope of what can be provided at the national level. Furthermore, the Bahamas would do well to support individuals who are scientifically inclined and have the potential to gain international education, exposure and experience to bring new and innovative remedies and solutions to an array of wide-ranging national issues and concerns such as obesity.

As aforementioned, this research found that according to (Gibson, J. 2017) “The Bahamas has the highest overweight rate in the Caribbean and Latin America”. In a conversation with (Miller, K. 2019) of the Ministry of Social Services, it was noted that this social issue is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health. Without having researched this matter any further as it relates to this study, given the high percentage of obesity in the Bahamas, it is recommended that an NGO be established to assist with addressing this and its’ associated national issues. This organization would go a long way in assisting the government by engaging health and other professionals and interested persons to brainstorm new and innovative ways to address this issue. This effort will also assist in alleviating this issue and explore innovative avenues to do so based on the Bahamas’ local norms and customs.

With directed, purposeful and meaningful attention given to this matter, the Bahamas would become poised to reduce the rate of associated consequential sickness and reduced the death rate associated with obesity and its’ related illnesses. In so doing, the country would be poised for a more robust society, reinvigorating an aging and elderly population, while providing opportunities for the younger generation and aspiring youth of the nation. These strong and healthy young people will be well

positioned to benefit from educational opportunities as noted above. Additionally, they will also benefit from sporting opportunities. These activities will be generated as a result of the establishment of an NGO; whose purpose would further facilitate much needed ingenuity and creativity to provide new impetus which is lacking in sports for the country.

An NGO that could offer scholarships and grants, like Lyford Cay and Templeton Foundations, in this regard would serve to facilitate such assistance. This would aid students in completing their studies, encouragingly and especially in areas where specialized skills are needed to address areas of deficiencies within the society. Moreover, in gratitude and appreciation for the opportunities afforded them, the beneficiaries of such assistance can begin to add value to this education NGO. They could be required to return some aspect of financial and or in-kind service to this NGO by way of subscription through a bond and or adoption. The process of bonding and adopting may present a way forward in increasing the number of more consistent contributions and donations to this NGO to replenish the endowment fund. This gesture would assist in facilitating additional scholarship opportunities for other individuals who qualify for such assistance. This approach could be used as a new strategy to introduce a multiplier effect to increase subscriptions for NGOs. This approach and recommendation may also begin to positively affect the economic element of deficiency as exposed by the NGO Thematic Analysis compared to the SPICES Chart (Table 9).

Broadening the impact to diversify NGOs would assist in providing more social assistance and support for the government and more importantly to assist persons in need in the society. An NGO with specific and dedicated focus on sports would go a

long way in aiding the diversification process. While the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture in the Bahamas provides more than \$23,000,000 of grants annually, there is still very much room for improvement. (Bahamas National Budget Allocation 2018.2019).

The government is challenged with so many areas of infrastructural and developmental concerns; and given its' recurrent expenditures it should welcome any additional efforts to support its' plight to offer opportunities for aspiring athletes in the country.

Additionally, and based on the gaps identified as a result of the NGO Thematic Analysis compared to the SPICES Chart (Table 9), this new NGO may also assist in addressing the culture aspect of deficiency in the country. It can begin to rejuvenate and improve defunct and implement new initiatives of cultural activities to engage and invite more of the country's citizens to become exposed to the cultural aspects of the society.

This NGO would aid aspiring athletic students in completing their educational studies, while focusing on developing their athletic skills and abilities to compete and gain acceptance and recognition on the international stage. The acquiring of specialized skills and athletic abilities would be transferrable from these aspiring professionals who would return to share and transfer such skills and abilities to assist other aspirants on a similar journey. Once students have completed their studies and become professionals in their area of sports, they too can begin to add transferrable value to this sports NGO. They could be required to return some aspect of financial and or in-kind service to this NGO by way of subscription through a bond and or adoption. The process of bonding and adopting may present a way forward in increasing the number of more consistent contributions and donations to this NGO to replenish the endowment fund. This gesture would assist in facilitating additional athletic scholarship opportunities to other aspiring individuals. Once again, this approach could be used as a new strategy to introduce a multiplier effect to increase subscriptions for NGOs.

These recommendations have merit as all will serve as a broadening and diversification effort to increase NGOs contributions in the country. In the former, the more educated the population is, the more likely it will become a progressive country, and begin to address the gaps in economic deficiencies. Once education is present and in abundance, the more employable individuals will become. Once they obtain jobs and are making contributions to the society, the less dependent they are on the social services of the country and the less strain on the economy.

“Education plays a major role in the growth and progress of a society. It is one of the key components that can make or break a culture’s advancement. If citizens of a society are educated, they can provide significant contributions in the fields of arts, literature, science, technology, and others, and help establish a well-rounded and stimulating community”. (“Education and its Benefits to Society – Why it is Important to Educate the People”, 2016).

At the center of these recommendations is health. For the Bahamas to become a vibrant country it must become a healthy country. With health and wellness at the core and as a central focus of this nation, the accompanying benefits will accrue to the positive advantage for the Bahamas. The citizenry will be well positioned to gain employment, as less strain will be on the social services of the country. The government would be able to direct much needed funds away from social services and more toward new initiatives and industries focused on diversification and employment. The youth and young adults will have better opportunities for advancement in the workforce and opportunities to fulfil their academic and athletic dreams.

It must also be noted that professional athletes do very well financially in terms of salaries, bonuses, perks and other benefits. These individuals are also affluent and consequently oftentimes very influential. They could garner support and donations to

aid specific causes and assist in addressing various social ills and challenges within communities and countries locally and internationally. They can become ambassadors for the country by way of their expertise. Such expertise would have been acquired through the assistance and support of a sports NGO. In gratitude and appreciation for the significant impact and contribution to their lives they may in return, assist in soliciting financial contributions to aid this NGO by way of their adoption of and bonding to their NGO.

Suggestion for NGOs

Given the information gathered, analyzed and presented, the researcher has come to unearth a great deal of the essence of philanthropy as it relates to service and filling the gaps to assist the poor, needy, marginalized and under-privileged in the Bahamian society.

In this vain it is suggested that the existing NGO community, and others that may emerge as a result of national disasters, crisis and other social challenges needing attention, that this community rejuvenate their efforts and serve with “HEART”. A google search found this biological definition which states that, “The **heart** is an organ about the size of your fist that pumps blood through your body. It is made up of multiple layers of tissue. Your **heart** is at the center of your circulatory system” (2019).

The “heart” will provide a new avenue for possibilities and encouragement to all who would benefit from the NGO community whether they can identify with it or not. The “heart” will go a long way in providing help, healing and love in insurmountable ways that will last a lifetime. The “HEART” will accomplish this by awakening the following love components:

♥	H	-	Hope
♥	E	-	Empowerment
♥	A	-	Advocacy
♥	R	-	Resourcefulness
♥	T	-	Teamwork

To the NGO, philanthropic, and civic society community of The Bahamas, your aim should be to bring about with inspiration, **Hope, Empowerment, Advocacy, Resourcefulness** and **Teamwork** in your quest to disseminate mutual love and respect among your brothers and sisters in the community. You will effect change and inspire **HOPE** for the poor, needy, marginalized, youth, elderly, sick, shut in and less fortunate within the society.

You will **EMPOWER** as many individuals as possible to realize their dreams so that they may become successful and productive members of their communities. You will engage a spirit of **ADVOCACY** to bring together like-minded individuals who share your values to assist in bringing about tangible and positive changes within the lives of the beneficiaries and within the country.

You will also engage a spirit of **RESOURCEFULNESS** as you seek financial assistance, donations and subscriptions to fund your organization's agenda and social outreach programs.

With **TEAMWORK** driven by tenacity and humility you must ensure that you attract and gain the necessary support to sustain your organization. You must be dedicated in your efforts and must ensure that you maintain an organization that operates in accountability and transparency as you strive to execute your duties. You must ensure that your NGO achieves its' goals and objectives through various programs to make valuable contributions to the less fortunate within the Bahamian society.

Chapter Six

CONCLUSION

Given the mounting social challenges within the country, increasing the number of NGOs and their impact will go a long way in addressing some of the social challenges in the Bahamian society. To that end, it was vital to engage “a broad-spectrum, strategic overview and analysis, to propose additional ways to positively diversify and broaden the impact and effect of NGO’s contribution in the Bahamas.

This exercise has answered the question as to the fact that the government needs more assistance and a greater impact from the NGO community by increasing its’ numbers. It is necessary to positively affect and impact the social challenges within the country, because it provides significant relief and support for the government. Given the population size of the Bahamas, and the number of registered NGOs compared to the population, there is a great disproportion of social welfare assistance in The Bahamas. Therefore, new and additional interest in the neglected areas of social challenges from civic minded individuals is needed to expand and diversify NGOs within the society.

Based on the primary and secondary information gathered from the relevant agencies investigated, the extend of assistance is far too limiting and duplicated in very few areas, inadequate in others and requires more innovation and resourcefulness in other crucial areas of social needs.

It is hoped that this study will in some way and someday prove to be beneficial in providing a foundation upon which the government and the NGO community can build; to provide additional assistance and support to many of our under-privilege and less fortunate brothers and sisters in The Bahamas.

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Appendices

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) Cover Letter and Questionnaire

Dear Respondent, my name is Ricardo Taylor. I am a Bahamian citizen enrolled in an online program completing classes at the Atlantic International University (AIU), which is based in Honolulu, Hawaii.

AIU is a learning institution that promotes and encourages adult learning and admonishes its' students to find ways to assist and positively impact one's community and country. The organization encourages learning, training and research to assist in finding ways to implement, innovate and improve various conditions in societies which require support and assistance.

To this end, I have decided to take on this challenge to become enlightened with and to further enhance my desire for providing social outreach to assist the needy and less fortunate in our country. Consequently, I am in the process of completing a course at AIU conducting research on the topic "Non-Governmental Organizations contribution in the Bahamas." In this regard therefore, I would like to invite your kind assistance and support in providing me with some feedback to assist in this process.

The Questionnaire includes 17 questions and simply requires your feedback about general information regarding your NGO, which I would like to share in the project. In sharing this information, I hope to, in some small way, acknowledge and applaud your efforts and highlight your kindness and generosity in our country toward our fellow brothers and sisters who are either in need or less fortunate in various circumstances. By sharing this information, it may also bring to the attention of others who may not know, what you do and the fact that you require assistance by way of financial and "in-kind" donations to assist in empowering you to empower others.

This research is being conducted to prove that based on the list of current registered NGOs, in the Bahamas, more still needs to be done. It is also being conducted to prove that other NGOs are necessary to reach more of our countries' needy and less fortunate brothers and sisters. Additionally, this research intends to seek additional ways from "A broad-spectrum, strategic overview and analysis and proposal to positively impact and significantly affect non-governmental organizations contribution in the Bahamas". This study can do this by identifying the areas that are currently being addressed by yours and other NGOs, and the many areas of social challenges that still needs to be addressed in our society.

Your response in this regard will help me to complete this research in an efficient way and help to identify many areas of social challenges that still need attention within our society. I do hope that you are encouraged to indulge me, as I request your kind assistance in completing the attached NGOs Questionnaire, at your earliest opportunity. Please print, complete, scan, attach and return the completed questionnaire to me. Or, you may wish to type your responses in the system and return the completed questionnaire to my email address at ricardotaylor1970@gmail.com **on or before Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.**

I look forward to and wish to thank you for your kind support and assistance in this request.

Kind regards,

Ricardo A. Taylor
Nassau, Bahamas

Questionnaire-Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) & Charities in The Bahamas

Name of NGO: _____

1. Who is/are the founder(s) of your organization? _____
2. What is the date your NGO was founded or established? _____
3. What is the main focus of your NGO? _____
4. What is your NGO's vision? _____
5. What is your NGO's mission? _____
6. What is your NGO's target market (area of focus)?"? _____
7. Approximately how many persons would you say that your NGO has impacted since its' inception? _____
8. How many persons would you say your organization is presently impacting on a monthly basis?

9. Do you feel that you can impact more persons at this time? _____
10. Does your organization impact or has one main area of focus, or do you focus on a cross-section of the social needs in our society? Please explain. _____

11. Are you presently receiving financial assistance from the government? _____
12. Are you receiving financial assistance locally from private persons and/or other organizations?

13. Are you receiving financial assistance from any international sources? _____
14. Do you conduct any fund-raising activities? _____
15. Based on your experiences to date, do you think we need other charities to address other areas of social concerns within the Bahamas? If yes, what areas or suggestions would you like to mention? _____
16. Do you feel the government should do more to recognize NGOs in the country? _____
17. If you answered yes to question number 16, what would you like to see the government do, or what would you recommend? Please explain.

Directory of Registered Non-Governmental Organizations in The Bahamas As at Summer 2019				
	NGO	Contact Person	Number	Email Address
1	Adventure Learning Center	Mr. Kenneth Romer Executive Director	242-361-2120	executivedirector@alcbahamas.org
2	Bahamas Association for Social Health (BASH)	Mr. Terry Miller Director	242-356-2274	bashbahamas@hotmail.com
3	Bahamas Children's Emergency Hostel	Ms. Sabrina Smith Administrator	242-361-4124	bceh@coralwave.com
4	Bahamas Humane Society	Insp. Percy Grant Executive Director	242-325-6742	petinspector@gmail.com
5	Bahamas National Trust	Mr. Eric Carey Executive Director	242-393-1317	bnt@bnt.bs
6	Bahamas Reef Env.Edu. Foundation	Ms. Casuarina McKinney-Lambert Executive Director	242-327-9000	breef@breef.org
7	Bahamas Urban Youth Development Center	Mrs. Prodesta Moore Founder	1-242-465-1111	bahamasurbanyouth@gmail.com
8	British Legion-Bahamas Branch	Ms. Adena Munroe Chairman/Treasurer	242-676-4066 242-422-1047	britishlegionbahamas@yahoo.com
9	Cancer Society of the Bahamas	Ms. Errin Storr Executive Director	242-323-4441/2	cancersociety@hotmail.com; tsands@cancersociety.org
10	Coalition to Protect Clifton (Save the Bays)	Mr. Joseph Darville, President & Founder & VP of Rights Bahamas	242-373-7558 242-727-0212	jldarville@savethebays.bs; info@savethebays.bs
11	Freeport Rugby & Football Club	Rob Speller	242-352-5044 242-350-8600 242-352-2952	robspeller@hotmail.com
12	Friends of the Environment	Mrs. Olivia Patterson Maura	1-242-367-2721 NCM	Info@FriendsoftheEnvironment.org
13	GGYA	Ms. Owens for Ms. Mortimer	242-367-8721 242-326-1760	ggya@coralwave.com
14	Grand Bahamas Children's Home	Ms. Sheila Smith	242-352-7852	sheilasmithgbch@gmail.com
15	Hands for Hunger	Ms. Kendria Ferguson Executive Director	242-327-1660 242-829-6539	info@handsforhunger.org
16	Nazareth Center	Ms. Elizabeth Mackey Asst. Administrator	242-328-0901	thenazarethcentre@gmail.com
17	One Eleuthera foundation	Ms. Robyn Curry	242-334-4700 242-334-4710	cti@oneeleuthera.org robyncurry@oneeleuthera.org
18	Pace Foundation	Ms. Jewel Taylor	242-356-0943 242- 431-0989	pacebahamasydl@gmail.com
19	Pilot Club of Nassau	NCM	NCM	Email address not found on site
20	Bahamas Red Cross Society – Headquarters	Ms. Caroline Turnquest Executive Director	242-323-7370/1or2	info@bahamasredcross.org
21	Bahamas Red Cross Society-Abaco	Ms. Caroline Turnquest	Contact main office	redcross@bahamas.net.bs
22	Bahamas Red Cross Society-Grand Bahamas	Ms. Caroline Turnquest	Contact main office	redcross@bahamas.net.bs
23	Ride for Hope	Ms. Susan Larson Founder	242-359-1143	Info@rideforhopebahamas.com
24	Rotary Club of East Nassau	Ms. Corrine LaVille	397-1600	rotaryclubeastnassau@gmail.com ; cclaville@amoury.com
25	Sir Charles Hayward Library	Geneva Rutherford	242-357-7048	sircharleshaywardpubliclibrary@gmail.com
26	Sister Sister Breast Cancer Group	Ms. Tammy Sands Administrator	242-323-4441 242-323-4482	cemcphoe@hotmail.com
27	The Bahamas Diabetic Association	Mario Smith Assistant Director	242-826-3278	bahamasdiabetes@gmail.com
28	The Charitable Arts Foundation	NCM	NCM	Email address not found on site
29	The National Lead Institute	Mr. Troy Clarke Executive Director	242-676-6551 242- 525-3749	thenationalleadinstitute@gmail.com
30	The Salvation Army	Ms. Delica Armbrister Administor's Asst.	242-829-0901 242- 393-2745	delisa_armbrister@car.salvationarmy.org
31	The Salvation Army-Freeport	Delica Armbrister	242-352-4863 242-352-7560	delisa_armbrister@car.salvationarmy.org
32	YMCA Grand Bahama	Karen Pinder-Johnson Executive Director	242-810-2955	ymcabahamas@gmail.com
	Foot Note:	NCM - No contact made		NIS- Number not in service

Department of Inland Revenue
List of Approved Charities / Non-Profits in The Bahamas

APPROVED CHARITIES/NON-PROFITS	
Adventure Learning Centre Bahamas Association for Social Health The Bahamas Humane Society Bahamas National Trust Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation Bahamas Urban Development Centeran Youth British Legion-Bahamas Branch Cancer Society Eleuthera Coalition to Protect Clifton Bay Freeport Rugby & Football Club Friends of The Environment Governor General's Youth Award Program Grand Bahama Children's Home Hands for Hunger One Eleuthera Foundation PACE Foundation Pilot Club of Nassau	Ride for Hope Bahamas The Rotary Club of East Nassau Sir Charles Hayward Library Sister Sister Breast Cancer Support Group The Bahamas Children's Emergency Hostel The Bahamas Diabetic Association The Bahamas Red Cross Society The Bahamas Red Cross Society-Abaco The Bahamas Red Cross Society-Grand Bahama The Charitable Arts Foundation The National L.E.A.D Institute The Nazareth Centre The Salvation Army The Salvation Army Freeport YMCA Grand Bahama Trading as YMCA Grand Bahama

<https://inlandrevenue.finance.gov.bs/list-of-approved-charitiesnon-profits/>

Registrar General's Department			
Register of Non-Profit Companies Incorporated			
No.	Company Name	No.	Company Name
1	"AS ONE"	631	KIWANIS CLUB OF FREEPORT GRAND BAHAMA
2	"LUPUS 242 ASSOCIATION"	632	KIWANIS CLUB OF LUCAYA GRAND BAHAMA
3	"NEW APOSTOLIC CHURCH BAHAMAS"	633	KIWANIS FOUNDATION OF THE BAHAMAS
4	25 CUMBERLAND STREET	634	KOINONIA MINITRIES
5	700 PARTNERS	635	KORQUIN INVESTMENTS LIMITED
6	A BETTER WAY EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY	636	LANSDOWNE CONSTRUCTORS LTD
7	A CALL TO HOLINESS MINISTRIES-AGAPE HOUSE	637	LATTER DAYS OUTREACH MINISTRY
8	A-MEN FOUNDATION GLOBAL (AFG)	638	LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNICATION FOUNDATION OF THE BAHAMAS,
9	ABACO BOAT CLUB	639	LEGACY BAY MINISTRIES
10	ABACO FLYFISHING GUIDES ASSOCIATION	640	LEGACY THREE MINISTRIES
11	ABACO PATHFINDERS	641	LEISURE LEE PROPERTY OWNERS
12	ABACO SPORTING AND CULTURAL ASSOCIATION	642	LEND A HAND BAHAMAS
13	ABACO SWIM CLUB	643	LEO INVESTMENT LIMITED
14	ABILITIES UNLIMITED	644	LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE MINISTRIES
15	ABUNDANT GRACE CHURCH	645	LIA'S LEGACY
16	ACCESS MINISTRIES	646	LIFE CARE ASSOCIATION
17	ACE DIABETES	647	LIFE CHANGERS MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
18	ACINOX BAHAMAS LIMITED	648	LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH
19	ACKLINS COMMUNITY MARINE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION	649	LIFE COMMUNITY VILLAGE,
20	ACKLINS TRADE & DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION	650	LIFE MINISTRIES
21	ACTION CHAPEL INTERNATIONAL	651	LIFE UNDERWRITERS ASSOCIATION OF THE BAHAMAS, THE
22	ACTS TWENTY-NINE INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES	652	LIFEGATE CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES INT'L
23	ADELAIDE UNION BAPTIST CHURCH	653	LIGHT AND LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH
24	ADR BAHAMAS	654	LIGHTHOUSE APOSTOLIC MINISTRIES
25	ADVENTURE LEARNING CENTRE	655	LIGHTHOUSE INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY
26	AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH, THE	656	LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRIES
27	AFRICAN METHODIST ESPISCOPAL CHURCH, THE	657	LION'S CLUB OF NASSAU
28	AGAPE FULL GOSPEL BAPTIST CHURCH	658	LIONS SOUTH LIMITED
29	ALANDIA SHIPPING COMPANY (NASSAU) LIMITED	659	LIT
30	ALBANY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, LTD.	660	LITTLE JERUSALEM APOSTOLIC CHURCH
31	ALL SAINTS CAMP BAHAMAS	661	LIVELY STONE CHURCH OF GOD
32	ALLEGRO SINGERS ASSOCIATION	662	LIVING WATERS KINGDOM MINISTRIES
33	ALPHA AQUATICS LIMITED	663	LIVING WORD MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL INCORPORATED
34	AMAZING GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH	664	LJM MARITIME ACADEMY
35	AMBASSADOR CHORALE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION	665	LOCAL ASSEMBLY APOLSOLIC CHURCH
36	AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE BAHAMAS	666	LONDON'S BRIDGE CHILDREN FOUNDATION
37	AMERICAN REALTY GROWTH FUND LTD	667	LONGBRANCH ARTISTS & ARTISANS ASSOCIATION
38	ANDROS BIBLE CAMP	668	LOVE IN ACTION INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES LIMITED
39	ANDROS CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES	669	LOVE WORTH FINDING MINISTRIES
40	ANDROS CONSERVANCY AND TRUST (ANCAT)	670	LOVE YOURSELF HOLISTICALLY ORGANIZATION
41	ANDROS HANDICRAFT AND MANUFACTURING ASSOCIATION (A.K.A. SAHMA)	671	LUCAYA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

42	ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH	672	LUCAYAN BIBLE SANCTUARY
43	ANOINTED TO REIGN KINGDOM MINISTRIES	673	LUCAYAN LODGE TEMPLE ASSOCIATION
44	ANOO ASSOCIATION	674	LUPUS BAHAMAS
45	ANTIQUE AUTO CLUB OF THE BAHAMAS	675	LUPUS ME? FOUNDATION
46	APOSTLES OF THE ENDTIME CHURCH	676	LYFORD CAY HOSPITAL, THE
47	APOSTOLIC CHURCH ASSOC OF THE BAH/CAICOS LTD, THE	677	M D INVESTMENTS LIMITED
48	APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF CHRIST	678	MACEDONIA COMMUNITY APOSTOLIC CHURCH
49	APOSTOLIC ORDER OF SAINT JOHN (ORDRE APOSTOLIQUE DE SAINT JEAN)	679	MAN O WAR HERITAGE MUSEUM
50	AQUARIAN FOUNDATION	680	MAN-O-WAR CAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
51	ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION FOUNDATION	681	MARANATHA BAPTIST CHURCH
52	ARROW OF DELIVERANCE	682	MARATHON BAHAMAS
53	ARROW OF DELIVERANCE	683	MARATHON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
54	ARTS INTERNATIONAL COMPANY LTD.	684	MARITIME MINISTRIES, INC.
55	ASCENSION GLOBAL KINGDOM ENRICHMENT CENTER	685	MARRIAGE KEEPERS INTERNATIONAL
56	ASCENSION HOLDINGS	686	MARSH HARBOUR GOSPEL ASSOCIATION
57	ASSEMBLIES OF YAHWEH OF NASSAU, BAHAMAS	687	MATTIE NOTTAGE MINISTRIES NON-PROFIT END-TIME APOSTOLIC INT'L
58	ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS IN BAH, THE	688	MAYAGUANA DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
59	ATLANTIC REAL ESTATE LIMITED	689	MCCREATH & SON INTERNATIONAL LTD
60	AVENUE OF HOPE BAHAMAS (WOMEN'S TEEN CHALLENGE)	690	MCHARI INSTITUTE OF ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL POLICIES
61	B.F.A. NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	691	MEN OF FAITH
62	BAARK! BAHAMAS ALLIANCE FOR ANIMAL RIGHTS AND KINDNESS	692	MEN OF HONOR ASSOCIATION
63	BAHA JUNIORS ASSOCIATION	693	MENNONITE MESSIANIC MISSION, INC.
64	BAHAMA AIR-SEA RESCUE ASSOCIATION LIMITED	694	MESSIAH BAPTIST CHURCH
65	BAHAMA DRAMA CIRCLE, THE	695	MIDAS FUND LIMITED, THE
66	BAHAMA FAMILY ISLANDS PROMOTION BOARD	696	MILLAR'S CREEK PRESERVATION GROUP
67	BAHAMA ISLANDS GROWTH INSTITUTE (BIG)	697	MINISTRY OF SALVATION
68	BAHAMAS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION	698	MIRACLE DELIVERANCE OUTREACH MINISTRIES
69	BAHAMAS AID FOR NEEDY CHILDREN	699	MIRACLE POWER PRAISE WORSHIP CENTER
70	BAHAMAS AMERICAN YOUTH FOOTBALL ALLIANCE	700	MIRACLE REVIVAL FELLOWSHIP BIBLE MOVE INC.
71	BAHAMAS ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CHILDREN	701	MIRACLE REVIVAL FELLOWSHIP BIBLE MOVE INC.
72	BAHAMAS ASSOCIATION FOR RETIRED PERSONS	702	MIRACLE REVIVAL INTERNATIONAL DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES
73	BAHAMAS ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL HEALTH (BASH)	703	MIRACLE VALLEY HIGHWAY CHURCH OF GOD
74	BAHAMAS ASSOCIATION FOR THE PHYSICALLY DISABLED	704	MIRACLE WORKING CHURCH OF GOD
75	BAHAMAS ASSOCIATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS (BAAP)	705	MISSION BAPTIST CHURCH
76	BAHAMAS ASSOCIATION OF LIFE AND HEALTH INSURERS TH	706	MISSION EDUCATE BAHAMAS
77	BAHAMAS ASSOCIATION OF SCIENCE EDUCATORS (B.A.S.E.)	707	MISSION THROUGH FAITH CHURCH OF GOD
78	BAHAMAS ASSOCIATION OF WEDDING CONSULTANTS	708	MITCHELLEKEDEDE BRAIN INJURY FOUNDATION
79	BAHAMAS AUTOMOBILE CLUB 1979	709	MONKS INCORPORATED LTD.
80	BAHAMAS AVIATION ASSOCIATION	710	MONROE ACADEMY
81	BAHAMAS BAPTIST MISSIONARY & EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION, THE	711	MONTELL HEIGHTS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
82	BAHAMAS BILLY GRAHAM MINISTRIES	712	MOORE'S ISLAND STUDENT ATHLETE PROGRAM
83	BAHAMAS BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS	713	MORAINÉ CAY VILLAS AND CLUB LTD.
84	BAHAMAS BUILDING CONTRACTORS & TRADESMEN ASSOCIATION	714	MORALES MEDICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

85	BAHAMAS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION	715	MORE THAN CONQUERORS INTERNATIONAL
86	BAHAMAS BUSINESS LEAGUE, THE	716	MORTIMER MARITIME FOUNDATION
87	BAHAMAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND EMPLOYERS CONFEDERATION	717	MOUNT ARARAT EVANGELISTIC TEMPLE
88	BAHAMAS CHINESE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION	718	MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST TEMPLE MINISTRY
89	BAHAMAS CHINESE BUSINESSMENS ASSOCIATION, THE	719	MOUNT HOREB BAPTIST CHURCH
90	BAHAMAS CHURCH OF GOD	720	MOUNT NEBO UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
91	BAHAMAS CO-OPERATIVE BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP	721	MOUNT TABOR CHURCH
92	BAHAMAS CONFERENCE OF THE CHURCH OF GOD (SEVENTH DAY)	722	MOUNT VERNON BAPTIST CHURCH
93	BAHAMAS CONFERENCES	723	MOUNTAIN OF FIRE AND MIRACLES MINISTRIES (MFM) BAHAMAS
94	BAHAMAS COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION	724	MOUNTAINTOP CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
95	BAHAMAS DISABILITY ADVENTURES	725	MOVE OF GOD PRAYING MINISRTIES INTERNATIONAL
96	BAHAMAS FAITH MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	726	MT. CARMEL TEMPLE OF REFUGE
97	BAHAMAS FEDERATION OF PERFORMING ARTS	727	MT. SINAI REVIVAL TEMPLE MINISTRY
98	BAHAMAS FINANCIAL SERVICES BOARD	728	MT. THEOS BAPTIST CHURCH
99	BAHAMAS FUNERAL DIRECTORS AND EMBALMERS ASSOCIATION	729	MYAJUS ASSOCIATION
100	BAHAMAS GENESIS LIFE CENTRE	730	MYLES MUNROE INTERNATIONAL (BAHAMAS) ASSOCIATION
101	BAHAMAS GOLF FEDERATION COMPANY	731	NASSAU AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY
102	BAHAMAS GOSPEL AND RESCUE MISSION, THE	732	NASSAU CHRISTIAN SERVICE COUNCIL
103	BAHAMAS GYMNASTICS PARENTS BOOSTER CLUB	733	NASSAU CITY OPERA COMPANY LIMITED
104	BAHAMAS HABITAT INITIATIVE	734	NASSAU CIVIC BALLET, THE
105	BAHAMAS HEALTH INSTITUTE	735	NASSAU CRUSADE FOR CHRIST
106	BAHAMAS HEALTHY LIFESTYLE CENTRE	736	NASSAU DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
107	BAHAMAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY (THE)	737	NASSAU FELLOWSHIP CENTRE
108	BAHAMAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, THE	738	NASSAU JEWISH COMMUNITY
109	BAHAMAS HOLINESS FAITH MISSION PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD ASSOCIATION	739	NASSAU LIONS CLUB, THE
110	BAHAMAS HOLY BIBLE MISSION	740	NASSAU METHODIST CHURCH
111	BAHAMAS HOT ROD ASSOCIATION	741	NASSAU NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH ASSOCIATION
112	BAHAMAS HOTEL AND TOURISM ASSOCIATION	742	NASSAU PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION
113	BAHAMAS INSURANCE ASSOCIATION	743	NASSAU PLAYERS, THE
114	BAHAMAS INTERNATIONAL BEER FESTIVAL	744	NASSAU ROWING CLUB LIMITED
115	BAHAMAS INTERNATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST	745	NASSAU TOURISM & DEVELOPMENT BOARD
116	BAHAMAS INTERNATIONAL SCIENTISTS CENTRE	746	NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUSTICES OF THE PEACE
117	BAHAMAS INVESTMENT AND SECURITIES BUSINESS ASSOCIATION	747	NATIONAL CHURCH OF GOD IN THE BAHAMAS
118	BAHAMAS LIGHT INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL	748	NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MARITIME OPERATIONS (NIMO)
119	BAHAMAS LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS ASSOCIATION	749	NATIONAL TENNIS CENTRE
120	BAHAMAS MARINE ECOCENTRE	750	NATURE'S HOPE FOR SOUTHERN ANDROS (NATURE'S HOPE)
121	BAHAMAS MARINE EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION	751	NEW CREATION MAN MINISTRIES
122	BAHAMAS MARINE MAMMAL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION	752	NEW APOSTOLIC CHURCH BAHAMAS
123	BAHAMAS MASTER PLUMBERS ASSOCIATION	753	NEW BEGINNING DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES
124	BAHAMAS MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION, THE	754	NEW BEGINNING KINGDOM MINISTRIES
125	BAHAMAS METAPHYSICAL SOCIETY	755	NEW BEGINNING LIFE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
126	BAHAMAS METHODIST HABITAT	756	NEW BEGINNING PRAYER MINISTRIES
127	BAHAMAS METHODIST HOLDING ASSOCIATION, THE	757	NEW BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH, THE
128	BAHAMAS NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR YOUTH RENEWAL AND REVIVAL	758	NEW BIRTH MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

129	BAHAMAS NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED WORLD COLLEGES, THE	759	NEW CARAVEL BAPTIST CHURCH
130	BAHAMAS NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR DISABILITY	760	NEW COVENANT CONGREGATION OF ISRAEL (BAHAMAS)
131	BAHAMAS NATIONAL NETWORK FOR POSITIVE LIVING	761	NEW COVENANT LIFE WORLD MINISTRY
132	BAHAMAS NATIONAL PRIDE ASSOCIATION	762	NEW DESTINY WORLD OUTREACH MINISTRIES
133	BAHAMAS NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	763	NEW HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
134	BAHAMAS NETWORK OF RURAL WOMEN PRODUCERS (BAHROP)	764	NEW HOPE MINISTRIES
135	BAHAMAS OCEANOGRAPHIC SOCIETY	765	NEW JERUSALEM KINGDOM MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
136	BAHAMAS PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION	766	NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTRE
137	BAHAMAS PUBLIC DEFENDERS ASSOCIATION	767	NEW LIFE RESTORATION MINISTRIES
138	BAHAMAS QUALITY COUNCIL, THE	768	NEW LIGHT MINISTRIES
139	BAHAMAS RACING & SPORTS CAR CLUB LIMITED	769	NEW MOUNT ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, THE
140	BAHAMAS RACQUETBALL FEDERATION	770	NEW PROVIDENCE COMMUNITY CHURCH
141	BAHAMAS RADIO-CONTROLLED MODEL POWER-BOAT SPORT FEDERATION	771	NEW REHOBOTH MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
142	BAHAMAS RATE REDUCTION BOND LIMITED	772	NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST CHURCH
143	BAHAMAS REEF ENVIRONMENT EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION – BREEF	773	NEW VISION BAPTIST CHURCH
144	BAHAMAS RESEARCH FOUNDATION	774	NEW VISION MINISTRIES
145	BAHAMAS ROADMASTERS	775	NEW VISION OUTREACH & COMMUNITY SERVICES
146	BAHAMAS ROWING FEDERATION	776	NEW WINE KINGDOM MINISTRIES
147	BAHAMAS SEXUAL HEALTH AND RIGHTS ASSOCIATION (BASHRA)	777	NEWBIRTH DELIVERANCE KINGDOM MINISTRIES ASSOCIATION
148	BAHAMAS SHIPOWNERS ASSOCIATION	778	NEWLIFE WORSHIP CENTER
149	BAHAMAS SIGHTSEEING AND TOUR OPERATORS ASSOC	779	NIGERIA-BAHAMAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
150	BAHAMAS SPIRIT AND BEER MANUFACTURERS ASSOC, THE	780	NORDISKA FUND LIMITED
151	BAHAMAS SPORTFISHING AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION	781	NORTH ANDROS DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
152	BAHAMAS SPORTS FOUNDATION	782	NORTH BAHAMAS CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
153	BAHAMAS SQUASH ASSOCIATION	783	NORTH EASTERN PASTORS' ALLIANCE
154	BAHAMAS STAR GYMNASTICS	784	NORTHERN BAHAMAS PROFESSIONAL COSMETOLOGISTS AND BARBERS ASS.
155	BAHAMAS STATE COUNCIL OF THE PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF THE WORLD	785	OASIS NEW DIRECTIONS
156	BAHAMAS TOUR OPERATOR'S ASSOCIATION	786	OCCUPY MENTORSHIP PROGRAM
157	BAHAMAS TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH	787	OCEAN CREST ALLIANCE
158	BAHAMAS UNDERSEA RESEARCH FOUNDATION, THE	788	OCEAN WATCH BAHAMAS LIMITED
159	BAHAMAS UNITED FUNERAL HOMES AND MORTICIANS ASSOCIATION	789	OLD FORT EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
160	BAHAMAS UNITED INITIATIVES LTD.	790	ONE ACCORDANCE DELIVERANCE CHURCH OF GOD
161	BAHAMAS URBAN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTRE	791	ONE ELEUTHERA FOUNDATION
162	BAHAMAS VISITOR SAFETY & SECURITY BOARD	792	ONE NATION TABERNACLE
163	BAHAMAS WORD OF TRUTH MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	793	OPEN AIR CAMPAIGNERS-BAHAMAS
164	BAHAMAS YOUTH CAMP ASSOCIATION	794	OPEN HEART FOUNDATION
165	BAHAMAS YOUTH FOUNDATION	795	OPERATION FRIENDSHIP
166	BAHAMAS YOUTH NETWORK	796	ORDER OF SAINT BENEDICT OF NASSAU, THE
167	BAHAMIAN ART GALLERY	797	OUTISLAND CHARTERS LIMITED
168	BAHAMIAN FORUM	798	OUTREACH EVANGELIC CHURCH
169	BAHAMIAN AGITATING FOR A REFERENDUM ON THE FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS	799	OUTREACH EVANGELISTIC PENTECOSTAL CHURCHES (BAHAMAS)
170	BAIN TOWN HELPING HANDS ASSOCIATION (BHHA)	800	OUTREACH HOPE

171	BALM IN GILEAD DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES	801	OUTREACH MINISTRIES INC.
172	BANDITTO POINT LIMITED	802	OUTREACH TEMPLE (E.P.C)
173	BANKBOSTON, N.A.	803	P.C.D.B
174	BANNERMAN TOWN, MILLARS & JOHN MILLARS, ELEUTHERA ASSOCIATION	804	PACE FOUNDATION
175	BAPTIST BIBLE CHURCH	805	PARADISE CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION
176	BAPTIST INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE BAHAMAS	806	PARAKLETOS MANOR
177	BARRACUDA SWIM CLUB	807	PARENTS ON A MISSION
178	BARRY UNIVERSITY BAHAMAS PROGRAMS	808	PARKVILLE GOSPEL MISSION
179	BEACON BAPTIST CHURCH OF NASSAU, BAHAMAS	809	PATH TO LIFE VISION MINISTRIES
180	BEHIND THE VEIL PRAYER HEALING AND DELIVERANCE MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL ASSOC	810	PATHFINDERS ORG. OF THE BAH. CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENISTS
181	BELIEVER'S WORSHIP CENTRE	811	PENIEL WORSHIP CENTRE
182	BELIEVERS BIBLE MINISTRIES	812	PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF FAITH IN GOD
183	BELIEVERS FAITH OUTREACH MINISTRIES	813	PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIP CENTRE
184	BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH	814	PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE INTERNATIONAL
185	BEREAN EVANGELICAL BAPTIST CHURCH	815	PERFORMING CURES (BAHAMAS)
186	BETHANY GOSPEL CHAPEL	816	PERSIS RODGERS HOME FOR THE AGED
187	BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH	817	PETRA BIBLE MINISTRIES
188	BETHEL FAITH MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	818	PHARAMACEUTICAL FINE CHEMICALS PROTUGUESA-PRODUCAO E COMERCIO DE
189	BETHEL HOLINESS FAITH MISSION	819	PHILADELPHIA SEVENTH-DAY APOSTOLIC MINISTRIES
190	BETHEL MINISTRIES	820	PILGRIM APOSTOLIC GLOBAL OUTREACH MINISTRIES
191	BETHEL VII DAY BIBLE MINISTRY	821	PILGRIM BAPTIST TEMPLE
192	BETHEL'S RESTORATION REVIVAL CENTER	822	PINEWOOD FIRST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
193	BETHESDA INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES	823	PINEWOOD GARDENS MINISTRIES, INC.
194	BETHLEHEM HOLINESS FAITH MISSION INC.	824	PINNACLE FAITH MINISTRIES ASSOCIATION
195	BETTER HANDS GIVING CARE CLUB	825	PLEASE INSERT THE CORRECT NAME
196	BIBLE LIFE MINISTRIES	826	POLHEMUS GARDENS LIMITED
197	BIBLE TEACHERS INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES INC	827	POND REUNION, INC., THE
198	BIBLE TRUTH HALL (MARSH HARBOUR), THE	828	POPOPSTUDIOS INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR THE VISUAL ARTS
199	BIBLE TRUTH HALL ASSOCIATION, THE	829	PORTROYALE LOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION
200	BIBLE TRUTH MINISTRIES	830	POTENTIAL CHURCH (BAHAMAS)
201	BIG HARVEST COMMUNITY AND CHRISTIAN TRAINING CENTRE	831	POTTER'S HOUSE DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
202	BIMINI BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATION	832	POWER HOUSE DELIVERANCE APOSTOLIC GLOBAL MINISTRIES
203	BIMINI MUSEUM PROJECT LIMITED, THE	833	POWER OF DELIVERANCE HOLY GHOST HEADQUARTERS
204	BLAIRWOOD CARES	834	POWER OF PRAISE TABERNACLE
205	BLESSED ASSURANCE INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES CHURCH	835	PRACTICAL LIFE MINISTRY
206	BLUE WATER FISHING & GAME LODGE LTD	836	PRAYER & PRAISE ASSEMBLY
207	BODY OF CHRIST CRUSADERS	837	PRAYER AND DELIVERANCE TEMPLE CHURCH
208	BORN AGAIN DELIVERANCE UNITED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CENTRE	838	PRAYER WARRIORS FELLOWSHIP
209	BORN AGAIN FULL GOSPEL BAPTIST CHURCH	839	PRECEPT MINISTRIES OF THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS
210	BOXWOOD FOUNDATION	840	PREMIER CORPORATION (NASSAU) LIMITED
211	BOXWOOD HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION	841	PREVALING CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
212	BRAVEHEART COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE	842	PRINCESS COURT MINISTRIES FORT CHARLOTTE
213	BREAD OF LIFE BAPTIST CHURCH	843	PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL FOUNDATION
214	BREAKING BOUNDARIES PROPHETIC MINISTRIES	844	PROJECT HOPE (BAHAMAS)

215	BRIDGE BUILDERS OUTREACH MINISTRY	845	PROJECT READ BAHAMAS
216	BRIGHTER BAHAMAS FOUNDATION	846	PROPERTY GROWTH FUND OF AMERICA LIMITED
217	BRITISH COLONIAL HOTEL FOUNDATION	847	PROPHETIC LOVE CHURCH
218	BRITISH LEGION-BAHAMAS BRANCH	848	PROUD PAWS
219	BROWN UNIVERSITY IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND	849	PWS MANAGEMENT LIMITED
220	BT INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES	850	QUEEN'S COLLEGE HOLDINGS
221	BUCCANEERS BASEBALL & SPORTING CLUB	851	QUEENS COVE CLUB LIMITED, THE
222	BUILDING HERITAGE LIMITED	852	QUIXOTE LIMITED
223	BURNING FLAMES YOUTH MINISTRY	853	R.O.T.H. (REACH OUT TO HELP)
224	BURROWS IMPORT & EXPORT LTD.	854	RACHEL'S DAUGHTERS MENTORING GIRLS INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY
225	C & G ENTERPRISES LIMITED	855	REACHING HEAVEN PRAYER & DELIVERANCE MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL
226	CABLE BEACH RESORT ASSOCIATION	856	REAPING THE HARVEST MINISTRIES INC.
227	CALVARY DELIVERANCE CHURCH	857	REFRIGERATION SERVICE ENGINEERS SOCIETY
228	CALVARY HAITIAN BAPTIST CHURCH	858	REFUGE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
229	CAMP BAHAMAS MINISTRIES	859	REFUGE TABERBACLE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION
230	CAMPERDOWN EQUESTRIAN CENTRE	860	REFUGE TEMPLE EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES
231	CANAAN BAPTIST CHURCH	861	REGATTA TIME IN ABACO
232	CANCER ASSOCIATION OF GRAND BAHAMA	862	REGENERATION MINISTRIES OF INCORPORATED CHURCHES
233	CANDLESTICK OUTREACH CENTRE	863	REHOBOTH GLOBAL MINISTRIES
234	CANON WARREN H. ROLLE ENDOWMENT FUND	864	REJECTED STONE OUTREACH MINISTRIES
235	CANS FOR KIDS	865	RELIEF FOR INMATES AND PRISON OFFICERS OF OUR PRISON
236	CAPE ELEUTHERA ISLAND SCHOOL	866	REMNANT REVIVAL INTERNATIONAL DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES
237	CARIBBEAN ALLIANCE OF NATIONAL PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATIONS	867	REMO LIMITED
238	CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACISTS	868	RENEWABLE ENERGY ASSOCIATION OF THE BAHAMAS
239	CARIBBEAN MINISTRIES ASSOCIATION	869	REPAIRER OF THE BREACH MINISTRY & ACHIEVERS BIBLE INSTITUTE
240	CARLETON LODGE TEMPLE ASSOCIATION	870	RESCUE AND CARE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
241	CARMICHAEL BAPTIST HOLINESS CHURCH	871	RESOURCES & EDUCATION FOR AUTISM & RELATED CHALLENGES (REACH)
242	CARMICHAEL BIBLE CHURCH	872	RESOURCES OF CANADA LIMITED
243	CARMICHAEL ROAD UNION BAPTIST CHURCH	873	RESTORATION EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES
244	CAT ISLAND HUMANE SOCIETY	874	RESTORATION KINGDOM MINISTRIES
245	CAT ISLAND UNITED	875	RESTRUCTURING AND INSOLVENCY SPECIALISTS ASS. (BAH.) (RISA BAHAMAS)
246	CATHEDRAL OF DELIVERANCE TEMPLE MINISTRIES	876	RESURRECTION MINISTRIES
247	CENTRAL ZION MINISTRIES	877	RESURRECTION POWER DELIVERANCE OUTREACH MINISTRIES INT'L
248	CENTRE FOR TRAINING AND INNOVATION	878	REVELATION CHURCH OF JESUS OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH
249	CFA SOCIETY OF THE BAHAMAS	879	REVELATION FAITH APOSTOLIC MINISTRIES INT'L
250	CHAN PRATT FOUNDATION	880	REVIVAL FAITH MISSION CHURCH, THE
251	CHANGE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	881	REVIVAL TIME PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD
252	CHANGING THE HEART OF THE MIND MINISTRIES	882	REVIVALS INTERNATIONAL INCORPORATED
253	CHARITY OF HOPE FOUNDATION	883	RHEMA INTERNATIONAL FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER MINISTRIES
254	CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF ARBITRATORS BAHAMAS BRANCH	884	RHEMA KINGDOM MINISTRIES
255	CHERMONDE CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION	885	RHEMA MINISTRY AND FAMILY WORSHIP CENTRE

256	CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP OF THE BAHAMAS	886	RHEMA TABERNACLE, CHURCH OF FAITH INCORPORATED
257	CHILD WATCH OF THE BAHAMAS	887	RIAMAR BAHAMAS LIMITED
258	CHILDREN'S PARADISE	888	RIDE FOR HOPE BAHAMAS
259	CHILDRENS RESOURCE EMPOWERMENT AND ARTISTIC TEACHING ENTERPRISE	889	RISE UP BAHAMAS FOUNDATION
260	CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH	890	ROTARAMA
261	CHRIST TEMPLE APOSTOLIC MINISTRIES	891	ROTARY CLUB OF ABACO
262	CHRISTIAN BUSINESS NETWORK	892	ROTARY CLUB OF EAST NASSAU
263	CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES OF THE BAHAMAS	893	ROYAL BAHAMAS DEFENCE FORCE VETERANS ASSOCIATION
264	CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	894	RUNNETH OVER MINISTRIES
265	CHRISTIAN FAITH FELLOWSHIP LIMITED	895	RUSSELL ESTATES HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION
266	CHRISTIAN GOSPEL MISSION OF THE BAHAMAS, THE	896	S.T.R.A.W. INC.
267	CHRISTIAN LIFE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION	897	SAFE BAHAMAS
268	CHRISTIAN OUTREACH INTERNATIONAL BAHAMAS	898	SAINT MARTIN MONASTERY
269	CHRISTIAN PARTNERS OF HOPE (BAHAMAS),	899	SAINT PETER'S BAPTIST EVANGELISTIC CHURCH
270	CHRYSALIS INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	900	SAINT PETER'S BAPTIST EVANGELISTIC CHURCH
271	CHURCH OF CHRIST	901	SALEM UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
272	CHURCH OF CHRIST APOSTOLIC	902	SAN SALVADOR'S LIVING JEWELS
273	CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST INCORPORATED	903	SANCTUARY MINISTRIES INCORPORATED
274	CHURCH OF GOD OF THE LAST DAYS	904	SANCTUARY OF PRAISE MINISTRIES
275	CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST FAITH OF THE APOSTLES	905	SANCTUARY OF THE REDEEMED
276	CHURCH OF THE FIRST BORN	906	SANDILANDS HOSPITAL'S WELFARE COMMITTEE
277	CHURCH OF THE LATTER RAIN	907	SANDY POINT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
278	CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD IN JESUS CHRIST , THE	908	SANTANDER RIOBANK (GRAND CAYMAN)
279	CHURCH OF THE LORD JESUS TEMPLE	909	SASH BAHAMAS
280	CHURCH PROPERTIES HOLDINGS	910	SAXONS SUPERSTARS HOLDINGS CO. LTD.
281	CHURCH WITHOUT BORDERS INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES	911	SAYR INTERNATIONAL
282	CIRCLE OF DELIVERANCE END-TIME APOSTOLIC INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION INC.	912	SBDC BAHAMAS
283	CITY GARDEN CLUB	913	SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETIC MINISTRY
284	CITY OF OLIVE	914	SEA BEACH ESTATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
285	CITY OF REFUGE	915	SECOND CHANCE OUTREACH MINISTRIES
286	CIVIL SOCIETY BAHAMAS	916	SECURITY GROWTH FUND LIMITED
287	CLARABELL BLESSINGS SOUP KITCHEN	917	SEED & SOWER MINISTRIES
288	CLASS OF 1971	918	SEED SOWING MINISTRIES
289	CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION & CHAPLAINCY (CPEC) BAHAMAS CHAPTER	919	SELECTIVE LEVERAGE FUND LIMITED
290	CLINTON HEALTH ACCESS INITIATIVE, INC.	920	SEMAC INVESTMENTS LIMITED
291	CLINTON MINNIS GLOBAL ALSO KNOWN AS CMG	921	SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE
292	CLOISTER DRIVE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION	922	SERVICE, WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
293	CLUB MONICA ATHLETICS	923	SHAKESPEARE IN PARADISE
294	COALITION TO PROTECT CLIFTON BAY	924	SHEKINAH FAMILY WORD CENTER
295	COMFORT HOUSE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL.	925	SHEKINAH KINGDOM MINISTRIES
296	COMMODITIES PROPRIETARY FUND LIMITED	926	SHEKINAH OUTREACH MINISTRY
297	COMMODITY FUND LIMITED, THE	927	SHIELD OF FAITH EVANGELISTIC CHURCH
298	COMMONWEALTH BAPTIST TEMPLE	928	SHILOH TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH
299	COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS BAPTIST CONVENTION	929	SHIRLEY HEIGHTS GOSPEL ASSOCIATION
300	COMMONWEALTH YOUTH GAMES 2017 COMPANY	930	SHOWTIME SPORTS AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

301	COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH	931	SHRINE CLUB OF THE BAH OF MAHI TEMPLE AAOONMS, THE
302	COMMUNITY HOLINESS CHURCH	932	SIGNS AND WONDERS GLOBAL PROPHETIC MINISTRIES
303	COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP CENTER	933	SILVER TOP DEVELOPERS LTD.
304	COMMUNITY PARTNERS	934	SINGLE MOTHER'S ASSOCIATION
305	COMPANY NUMBER TO BE USED AT A LATER DATE.	935	SIR CHARLES HAYWARD LIBRARY
306	COMPREHENSIVE FAMILY MINISTRIES (COFAM) BAHAMAS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION	936	SIR LYNDEN PINDLING FOUNDATION
307	COOPER'S TERRACE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF GOD INC (CTCOG)	937	SISTER SISTER (BREAST CANCER) SUPPORT GROUP
308	CORE OF HOPE	938	SMART AND STRONG SISTERHOOD (SASS)
309	CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH	939	SMB CARE FOUNDATION
310	CORNERSTONE CHURCH OF CHRIST INC.	940	SOLID ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH
311	COUNCIL OF WOMEN IN THE BAHAMAS	941	SOLID ROCK CORNERSTONE HEALING CENTRE MINISTRIES
312	COUSIN MCPHEE CATHEDRAL A.M.E. CHURCH	942	SONLIGHT BOAT MINISTRIES
313	COVENANT LIFE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	943	SONSHIP FAITH MINISTRIES
314	CR2	944	SOUL SAVING MINISTRIES
315	CREATIVE CHRISTIAN ARTS MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	945	SOUL SURVIVORS PRAYER MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL CHURCH
316	CREATIVE NASSAU	946	SOUL WINNING CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
317	CRIME STOPPERS BAHAMAS	947	SOUTH ANDROS CHRISTAIN CENTRE
318	CRIPPLED CHILDREN COMMITTEE	948	SOUTH BAHAMAS CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
319	CRUZ AZUL FOUNDATION	949	SOUTH HAVEN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
320	CTC NETWORK INCORPORATED	950	SOUTHERN SHORES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
321	CULTURE CITY	951	SOUTHSIDE CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES INTL.
322	CUMMINGS TEMPLE AME CHURCH	952	SPANISH WELLS GOSPEL CHAPEL
323	DAISY THOMPSON SPEAKING TO THAT MOUNTAIN MINISTRIES	953	SPECIAL OLYMPICS BAHAMAS
324	DAME DR. DORIS L. JOHNSON FOUNDATION	954	SPIRIT OF LIFE MINISTRIES ASSOCIATION
325	DANOTTAGE ESTATES NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION	955	ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL FOUNDATION
326	DAVE BURROWS YOUTH & FAMILY INTERNATIONAL	956	ST. AUGUSTINE'S COLLEGE
327	DEAN WILLIAM GRANGER MEMORIAL CENTRE	957	ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, BAHAMAS CHAPTER
328	DEEP CREEK ELEUTHERA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION	958	ST. SAVIOUR FOUNDATION
329	DELIVERANCE FAITH CENTRE MINISTRIES	959	ST. STEPHEN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
330	DELIVERANCE FULL GOSPEL MINISTRY	960	STANIARD CREEK ANDROS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
331	DELIVERANCE HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH	961	STELLA MARIS PROPERTY OWNER ASSOCIATION
332	DELIVERANCE REVIVAL CENTER	962	STONE ARCH SPORTS FOUNDATION
333	DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE	963	STRAW BUSINESS PERSONS SOCIETY
334	DESTING HOLDINGS LTD.	964	STUDENT REFOCUS SUPPORT PROGRAMME
335	DEVELOPMENT FUND OF AMERICA LIMITED	965	SUMMERLEA INVESTMENTS LIMITED
336	DIABETIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE	966	SUNLAND SCHOOL
337	DISABLED PERSONS' ORGANIZATION LIMITED	967	SURE WORD BIBLE MINISTRIES
338	DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD OF THE BAH DIST CHURCH, TH	968	TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
339	DIVINE DELIVERANCE BAPTIST CHURCH	969	TABERNACLE OF MERCY INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES
340	DIVINE ENCOUNTER MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	970	TABERNACLE OF PRAYER, PRAISE AND WORSHIP OUTREACH MINISTRIES
341	DIVINE KINGDOM MINISTRIES	971	TABERNACLE OF REFUGE DELIVERANCE CENTRE INCORPORATED
342	DIVINE OUTREACH MINISTRY	972	TABNERCLE HEALING CHURCH OF GOD
343	DIVINE PURPOSE KINGDOM MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	973	TALEA HOLDINGS LIMITED

344	DOMINION COMMUNITY CHURCH	974	TARPUM BAY ASSOCIATION
345	DOMSIW LIMITED	975	TEEN CHALLENGE NORTHERN BAHAMAS
346	DR. MEYER RASSIN FOUNDATION	976	TELEIOS MINISTRIES
347	DUNDAS CIVIC CENTER, THE	977	TEMPLE FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES
348	EACH ONE HELP ONE	978	TEMPLE OF PRAISE MINISTRIES
349	EAGLE EYE KINGDOM MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	979	TERRAFUND LIMITED
350	EAGLE WINGS MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL	980	THE ABACO SHELTER ANIMAL RESCUE
351	EAGLES NEST COMMUNITY CHURCH	981	THE ADISA FOUNDATION
352	EAST STREET GOSPEL CHAPEL	982	THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH OF THE BAHAMAS
353	EASTON INVESTMENTS LTD	983	THE AIYANNA FOUNDATION
354	EBENEZER COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE	984	THE ALBANY BOATING CLUB LIMITED
355	EBENEZER MISSION BAPTIST CHURCH	985	THE ASHLEY ROSE INTERNATIONAL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
356	EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE ORGANIZATION	986	THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD IN THE BAHAMAS
357	EKKLESIA APOSTOLIC MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	987	THE ASSOCIATION FOR A BEAUTIFUL BAHAMAS
358	EL SISTEMA BAHAMAS	988	THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER TOURISM EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES
359	ELDON JOHNSON OUTREACH MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	989	THE ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL BANKS & TRUST COMPANIES IN THE
360	ELEUTHERA ANIMAL RESCUE SOCIETY (E.A.R.S.)	990	THE BAHAMA SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS
361	ELEUTHERA LAND CONSERVANCY LTD	991	THE BAHAMAS AIDS FOUNDATION
362	ELIZABETH ESTATES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION	992	THE BAHAMAS AMERICAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION
363	EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH	993	THE BAHAMAS ASS. FOR SUPERVISION AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT
364	EMPTY BOWLS BAHAMAS	994	THE BAHAMAS ASSOCIATION OF ATHLETIC ASSOCIATIONS
365	ENDTIME MINISTRY IN CHRIST	995	THE BAHAMAS ASSOCIATION OF CHIROPRACTIC
366	ENTERTAINERS CLUB LIMITED	996	THE BAHAMAS ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN COUNSELORS
367	EPIC CHURCH	997	THE BAHAMAS ASSOCIATION OF PHYSIOTHERAPISTS
368	EPIPHANY METHODIST CHURCH	998	THE BAHAMAS BAR ASSOCIATION (2011)
369	ETHIOPIA AFRICA BLACK INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS	999	THE BAHAMAS BROTHERHOOD MOVEMENT
370	EVANGELICAL BAPTIST CHURCH	1000	THE BAHAMAS CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY HOSTEL
371	EVANGELINE JERVIS COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER	1001	THE BAHAMAS COMMERCIAL SPONGERS ASSOCIATION
372	EVANGELISTIC CENTRE ASSEMBLY OF GOD	1002	THE BAHAMAS COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM
373	EVANGELISTIC OUTREACH	1003	THE BAHAMAS DEBUTANTE FOUNDATION
374	EVANGELISTIC PENTECOSTL CHURCHES (BAHAMAS) INCORPORATED	1004	THE BAHAMAS DIABETIC ASSOCIATION
375	EVER CHANGING LIVES MINISRIES	1005	THE BAHAMAS FLY - FISHING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
376	EXALTED WORD OUTREACH INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES	1006	THE BAH. FOUNDATION FOR BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILDREN
377	EXUMA CRAFTERS NETWORK	1007	THE BAHAMAS GLOBAL CARE ASSOCIATION
378	EXUMA ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (EELI)	1008	THE BAHAMAS HAEMOPHILIA FOUNDATION
379	EYES WIDE OPEN	1009	THE BAHAMAS HOMESCHOOL ASSOCIATION
380	EZEKIEL'S HOUSE OF MENTORING INTERNATIONAL	1010	THE BAHAMAS HUMANE SOCIETY
381	F.I.N.E. LIMITED	1011	THE BAHAMAS INSTITUTE FOR CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH
382	FAITH AND HOLINESS OUTREACH AND DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	1012	THE BAHAMAS INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
383	FAITH FAMILY WORSHIP CENTRE	1013	THE BAHAMAS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
384	FAITH NATIONAL CHURCH OF GOD	1014	THE BAHAMAS LOVING CARE ASSOCIATION
385	FAITH TRIUMPHANT PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD	1015	THE BAHAMAS NATIONAL CITIZEN'S COALITION

386	FAITH TRUTH AND DELIVERANCE INTERNATIONAL	1016	THE BAHAMAS NATIONAL CRAFT ASSOCIATION
387	FAMILY EMPOWERMENT YOUTH MENTORING ORGANIZATION	1017	THE BAHAMAS NATIONAL FEEDING CHARITY
388	FAMILY ENRICHMENT FOUNDATION	1018	THE BAHAMAS NATIONAL SAILING SCHOOL
389	FAMILY FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE AND UNIFACATION	1019	THE BAHAMAS NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA
390	FAMILY LIFE KINGDOM CENTER	1020	THE BAHAMAS OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION
391	FAMILY OF FAITH MINISTRIES	1021	THE BAHAMAS PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENT OF YEAR FOUNDATION
392	FAMILY OF GOD WORSHIP CENTER	1022	THE BAHAMAS RADIO CONTROLLED MODEL AIRCRAFT FEDERATION
393	FARMER'S CAY REGATTA COMMITTEE	1023	THE BERRY ISLAND ASSOCIATION
394	FARMER'S HILL & OLD PLACE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION	1024	THE BIRCHALL FOUNDATION
395	FEEDING THE POOR	1025	THE BLACK POINT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
396	FELLOWSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH	1026	THE BLESSED HOPE APOSTOLIC CHURCH
397	FINAL HOUR MINISTRIES, THE	1027	THE BLUE HOLES FOUNDATION
398	FIRETRAIL OUTREACH MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	1028	THE CASTLE
399	FIRM COMMITMENT MINISTRIES	1029	THE CAT ISLAND SAILING CLUB
400	FIRM FOUNDATION KINGDOM MINISTRIES	1030	THE CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (BAHAMAS)
401	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED	1031	THE CHANCE FOUNDATION
402	FIRST BERACA BAPTIST CHURCH	1032	THE CHILDREN'S GROUP LIMITED
403	FIRST BORN ASSEMBLY CHURCH OF GOD WRITTEN IN HEAVEN HEBREW 12:23.	1033	THE CHILDREN'S HAVEN BAHAMAS
404	FIRST BORN CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD, THE	1034	THE CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE
405	FIRST BORN DELIVERANCE OF JESUS CHRIST	1035	THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE IN THE BAHAMAS
406	FIRST CHURCH OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST OF THE BAH., ISLANDS INCORP.	1036	THE CHRISTIAN TABERNACLE
407	FIRST DUCH SECURITIES LTD	1037	THE CHURCH OF REDEMPTION
408	FIRST GUARANTEED FUND LIMITED	1038	THE CHURCH OF THE COSMIC CONSCIOUSNESS
409	FIRST INTERNATIONAL REALTY/SECURITIES FUND LTD	1039	THE CHURCH OF THE HARVEST OUTREACH MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL LTD.
410	FISHERMEN'S FEST	1040	THE CHURCH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST FAITH OF THE APOSTLE
411	FISHING FOR A FUTURE	1041	THE CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY
412	FIVE PORCHES OF DELIVERANCE CENTRE	1042	THE CLUB AT WINDERMERE
413	FLORIDA AND BAHAMAS VACATION TOURS LTD	1043	THE CONFEDERATION OF NORTH,CENTRAL AMERICA AND CAR. ASS. FOOTBA
414	FOAM ASSOCIATION	1044	THE CONGREGATION OF GOD SEVENTH DAY
415	FOREIGN MISSION BOARD OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CO	1045	THE DANIEL FOUNDATION
416	FORERUNNER MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	1046	THE DEEP SOUTH MOVEMENT OF CAT ISLAND (OLD SAN SALVADOR)
417	FOREST FARMERS ASSOCIATION LIMITED	1047	THE DIGNIFIED GIRL PROJECT
418	FORT CHARLOTTE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE	1048	THE DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB
419	FOUNDATION OF THE WORD MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	1049	THE ELEUTHERA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
420	FOUNTAIN OF LIFE KINGDOM MINISTRIES	1050	THE ELIZABETH HARBOUR CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP
421	FOX FOUNDATION ASSOCIATION	1051	THE EVANGELISTIC TEMPLE
422	FOX HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE	1052	THE EXUMA ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEV.
423	FOX HILL CREEK ASSOCIATION	1053	THE FABULOUS WIVES CLUB
424	FRANK RUTHERFORD FOUNDATION	1054	THE FIRM FOUNDATION BIBLE CHURCH
425	FRATERNITE NOTRE DAME (BAHAMAS) LTD.	1055	THE FOUNDATION OF TRIATHLETES INCORPORATIO
426	FREE IN JESUS DELIVERANCE MIRACLE TEMPLE	1056	THE FRIENDS OF CLIFTON PARK
427	FREEDOM BAPTIST MINISTRIES	1057	THE GATHERING OF THE EAGLES MINISTRIES

428	FREEDOM INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES	1058	THE GENTLEMEN'S CLUB
429	FREEPORT (GRAND BAHAMA) CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	1059	THE GOLDEN GATES SCHOLARSHIP FUND
430	FREEPORT EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, THE	1060	THE GOOD NEIGHBOURS ASSOCIATION
431	FREEPORT FELLOWSHIP CENTRE	1061	THE GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH OF GOD
432	FREEPORT FUND LIMITED	1062	THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S YOUTH AWARD
433	FREEPORT GREAT FAITH MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL	1063	THE GRACE CENTRE
434	FREEPORT HEBREW CONGREGATION LIMITED	1064	THE GRAND BAHAMA CHILDREN'S HOME
435	FREEPORT JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	1065	THE GRAND BAHAMA CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
436	FREEPORT PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS	1066	THE GRAND BAHAMA CULTURAL AND HERITAGE MUSEUM
437	FREEPORT RUGBY & FOOTBALL CLUB	1067	THE GRAND BAHAMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
438	FREEPORT VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY AID ASSOCIATION	1068	THE GRAND BAHAMA HOME & DAY CARE FOR THE AGED & CHILDREN
439	FRESH ANOINTING PRAYER & DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES	1069	THE GRAND BAHAMAS ISLAND TOURISM BOARD
440	FRESH FIRE KINGDOM MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	1070	THE HARD HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
441	FRIENDS OF COLUMBUS HOUSE	1071	THE HARRY WILLIAMS LABOUR OF LOVE ORGANIZATION
442	FRIENDS OF DISTINCTION RIDERS CLUB	1072	THE HATCHET BAY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
443	FRIENDS OF THE ABACO BARBARY HORSE	1073	THE HEARING CENTRE OF THE BAHAMAS
444	FRIENDS OF THE ABACO PARROTS LIMITED	1074	THE HERROD BAHAMAS FOUNDATION
445	FRIENDS OF THE BAHAMAS	1075	THE HOLY GHOST REVIVAL & DELIVERANCE CENTER
446	FRIENDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT	1076	THE HONORARY CONSULAR CORPS IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAH.
447	FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY	1077	THE HOPE CENTRE
448	FRIENDS OF THE NAZARETH CENTRE	1078	THE HOUSE OF EL SHADDI INNER HEALING MINISTRY
449	FRIENDS OF THE PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL, THE	1079	THE HUG MINISTRY
450	FRIENDSHIP TABERNACLE CHURCH	1080	THE INDABA PROJECT
451	FULL GOSPEL BAPTIST CHURCH FELLOWSHIP, BAHAMAS	1081	THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF THE BAHAMAS
452	FULL LIFE UNLIMITED PENTECOSTAL MINISTRIES	1082	THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH MINISTRIES
453	FUTUREKIDS FOUNDATION	1083	THE KING HUMANITARIAN & GLOBAL FOUNDATION, INC.
454	GATEWAY OUTREACH MINISTRIES	1084	THE KING IS COMING MINISTRIES
455	GENERATION ESTHERS INC	1085	THE KOUMBIT AYSYEN ASSOCIATES
456	GERRY'S KIDS CHARITIES	1086	THE LADIES' FRIENDSHIP CLUB OF LONG ISLAND
457	GILEAD INTERNATIONAL KINGDOM MINISTRIES	1087	THE LADY DARLING HERITAGE FOUNDATION OF THE BAH. AND AMERICAS
458	GLAD TIDINGS TABERNACLE, ASSEMBLIES OF GOD	1088	THE LANDFALL CENTRE
459	GLOBAL FAITH MINISTRIES	1089	THE LIGNUM VITAE CENTRE OF HOPE
460	GLOBAL OUTREACH DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES	1090	THE LIVING WATER CHURCH OF GOD
461	GLOBAL UNITED FELLOWSHIP	1091	THE LONG ISLAND GEOGRAPHICAL & HISTORICAL TEAM
462	GLOBAL VILLAGE KINGDOM	1092	THE LORD'S HOUSE
463	GLOBAL WORSHIP CENTER MINISTRIES	1093	THE LUPUS FOUNDATION OF THE BAHAMAS
464	GLORY GARDEN UNITY CHURCH	1094	THE LYFORD CAY CLUB CHARITY
465	GOD'S DWELLING PLACE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	1095	THE LYFORD CAY FOOTBALL CLUB
466	GOD'S HOUSE OF REFUGE & LOVE MINISTRIES	1096	THE LYFORD CAY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
467	GOD'S LIVING WORD TEACHING CENTRE INT'L.	1097	THE LYFORD CAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
468	GOD'S MINISTRIES	1098	THE MARINA OPERATORS OF THE BAHAMAS
469	GOD'S MIRACLE CENTER	1099	THE MARITIME MUSEUM
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472	GODFREY R. WILLIAMS MINISTRIES	1102	THE MILLER HUMANATARIAN FOUNDATION, INC.
473	GOLDEN GATES ASSEMBLY & WORLD OUTREACH MINISTRIES	1103	THE MOUNT GILEAD CHURCH OF FREEPORT

474	GOLDEN GATES CHURCH OF CHRIST	1104	THE MT ARARAT BAPTIST CHURCH INCORPORATED
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NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS BILL, 2018

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NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS BILL, 2018

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS AND FOR CONNECTED PURPOSES

Enacted by the Parliament of The Bahamas

PART I - PRELIMINARY

1. Short title and commencement.

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Non-profit Organizations Act, 2018.
- (2) This Act shall come into force on a date to be appointed by the Minister by notice published in the *Gazette*.

2. Interpretation.

In this Act —

“**controller**” means —

- (a) a trustee of a trust, where the non-profit organization is established as a trust;
- (b) a director of a company, where the non-profit organization is established as a company;
- (c) a general partner of a partnership, where the non-profit organization is established as a partnership;
- (d) a person responsible for all aspects of management and administration of an unincorporated association, where the non-profit organization is established as an unincorporated association;
- (e) a member of a corporation, where the non-profit organization is established as an entity incorporated by statute;

- (f) a founder of a foundation, where the non-profit organization is established as a foundation; or
- (g) a person not specified in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f) where the non-profit organization is established by that person;

“**financial year**” means the financial year of a non-profit organization;

“**gross annual income**” means, with respect to a non-profit organization, the total income of the non-profit organization from any source during the twelve months immediately preceding the first day of that period, including, but not limited to—

- (a) income received from the provision of goods and services;
- (b) rental income;
- (c) interest and other income derived from its investments;
- (d) donations of money or other property made to it; and
- (e) any other grants made to it;

“**identified risks**” has the meaning ascribed to it under the Proceeds of Crimes Act (*Ch. 93*), namely that in relation to a non-profit organization, any act that involves corruption, cybercrime, human trafficking, money laundering, proliferation or financing of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism or financing of terrorism, or such other act that the Minister under the Proceeds of Crime Act may prescribe by Order;

“**Minister**” means the Minister responsible for non-profit organizations;

“**non-profit organization**” means a body of persons whether incorporated or unincorporated or a trust formed and established for the purpose of promoting public policies or objects that are religious, charitable, educational, scientific, historical, fraternal, literary, sporting, artistic or athletic, and whose profits, if any, and other income are applied to the promotion of those objects, or for which there is a prohibition of any dividend or refund of contributions to its members;

“**register**” means the register of non-profit organizations established and maintained under section 7;

“**Registrar**” means the Registrar of Non-Profit Organizations appointed under section 4.

3. Application of Act.

This Act does not apply to friendly societies under the Friendly Societies Act (*Ch. 313*).

PART II – ADMINISTRATION

4. Registrar of Non-profit organizations.

- (1) The Governor-General, acting in accordance with the advice of the Public Service Commission, may appoint a Registrar of Non-profit Organizations (hereafter referred to as the “Registrar”) who shall hold office during his pleasure.
- (2) The Registrar shall be a fit and proper person appropriately qualified for appointment -
 - (a) being an attorney with a minimum of five years call at the Bar;
 - (b) not having been convicted of a crime involving dishonesty or violence; and
 - (c) not having been adjudged or otherwise declared bankrupt under any law.
- (3) The Registrar shall be responsible for the administration of this Act.
- (4) The Registrar may, in writing, designate any other person to perform the duties and functions of the Registrar under this Act.

5. Functions of the Registrar.

The functions of the Registrar are —

- (a) to receive, consider and process applications for registration as a non-profit organization;
- (b) to receive, consider and process annual returns submitted by non-profit organizations;
- (c) to receive annual financial statements;
- (d) to ensure that all non-profit organizations have appropriate internal controls in place, including an appropriate system to identify conduct which may involve identified risks;
- (e) to ensure that the financial statements relating to a non-profit organization are preserved for a minimum of five years;
- (f) to identify apparent cases of misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of non-profit organizations;
- (g) to receive representations from the public about persons who have engaged in, or are engaging in conduct that constitutes, or may constitute a breach of this Act or an identified risk;
- (h) to refer cases of non-compliance with this Act, including acts of misconduct or mismanagement to the Commissioner of Police;

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- (i) to enhance the accountability of non-profit organizations to donors, beneficiaries and the general public;
 - (j) to promote public trust and confidence in non-profit organizations;
 - (k) to encourage and promote the effective use of charitable resources;
 - (l) to educate and assist non-profit organizations in relation to matters of good governance and management, including —
 - (i) issuing guidelines or recommendations on the best practice to be observed by non-profit organizations, fiduciaries and other persons concerned with the management or administration of non-profit organizations;
 - (ii) issuing model rules; and
 - (iii) providing information to non-profit organizations about their rights, duties and obligations under this Act;
 - (m) to stimulate and promote research into any matter relating to non-profit organizations, including —
 - (i) collecting and disseminating information or research about non-profit organizations;
 - (ii) advising on areas where further research or information about non-profit organizations should be undertaken or collected; and
 - (iii) entering contracts or arrangements for research or information about non-profit organizations to be undertaken or collected;
 - (n) to make appropriate information available to assist persons in submitting registration applications under this Act;
 - (o) to give information or advice, or make proposals to the Minister on matters relating to any of the Registrar's functions or achieving any of his objectives;
 - (p) to consider, report and make recommendations on any matter relating to non-profit organizations, including matters —
 - (i) referred by the Minister; or
 - (ii) initiated by the Registrar on his own accord; and
 - (q) to perform any other function conferred by this Act or that the Minister may direct the Registrar to perform in accordance with this Act.

6. Powers of the Minister.

The Minister may give general policy directions to the Registrar relating to the exercise of the Registrar's functions and the Registrar shall comply with such directions.

7. Establishment of a register of non-profit organizations.

- (1) The Registrar shall establish and maintain a register of non-profit organizations.
- (2) The register shall include the following information with respect to a non-profit organization —
 - (a) its name, registered office address, telephone number and e-mail address;
 - (b) its purposes and activities;
 - (c) the identity of the person or persons who own, control or direct the non-profit organization;
 - (d) the date of registration of a non-profit organization under this Act, and if applicable, the date on which its registration was cancelled; and
 - (e) such other information as the Registrar considers appropriate.
- (3) The register shall be prepared and kept in such manner as the Registrar thinks fit.
- (4) The Registrar shall supply any person, on payment of the requisite fee with copies of, or extracts from, any document in his possession which is for the time being open to public inspection in accordance with this Act.
- (5) The register shall be open for inspection, at the office of the Registrar by members of the public, during regular working hours.

PART III – REGISTRATION**8. Registration of non-profit organizations.**

- (1) A non-profit organization shall not carry out operations unless it is registered under this Act.
- (2) A non-profit organization shall submit to the Registrar, an application to register in accordance with the form set out in the *First Schedule*.
- (3) Subject to subsection (4), the Registrar shall register a non-profit organization.
- (4) In considering an application submitted by a non-profit organization for registration, the Registrar shall have regard to —
 - (a) the declared purposes of the non-profit organization;
 - (b) a mission statement of the non-profit organization;
 - (c) the identity of the controller of the non-profit organization;

- (d) copies or particulars of the trust, trust deed and any other organizational documents;
 - (e) copies of the constitution or memorandum of association and articles of association of the non-profit organization;
 - (f) anticipated source of contributions;
 - (g) records of contributions and contributors;
 - (h) evidence of how contributions were or are to be applied;
 - (i) evidence of “Know Your Client” compliance;
 - (j) evidence of board structure and function; and
 - (k) any other matter the Registrar considers relevant.
- (5) The controller, or last controller of a non-profit organisation shall —
- (a) notify the Registrar if the non-profit organisation ceases to exist, or if there is any change in its trusts, membership or other particulars entered in the register; and
 - (b) supply the Registrar with particulars of any such changes under paragraph (a) and with copies of all relevant documents.
- within thirty days after such cessation or change, or such longer period as the Registrar may, in his discretion, allow.
- (6) A person who carries on operations without registering in accordance with this section, commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars or a term of imprisonment not exceeding one year, or to both.
- (7) A non-profit organisation in existence immediately before the date of commencement of this Act, must be registered within ninety days thereof.

9. Duration of registration.

- (1) Where the Registrar is satisfied that a non-profit organisation is suitable for registration, the Registrar shall issue a certificate of registration to the non-profit organisation, upon payment of the prescribed fee.
- (2) A certificate of registration issued under subsection (1) is valid for a period of three years from the date of issue.
- (3) An certificate of registration may be renewed —
 - (a) upon application for the renewal of a certificate of registration as set out in the *First Schedule*; and
 - (b) upon payment of the fee prescribed in the *Second Schedule*.

10. Refusal of application to register.

The Registrar shall refuse to register a non-profit organisation if —

- (a) the activities of the applicant do not fall within the definition of non-profit organisation under section 2;
- (b) the non-profit organization is established for illegal purposes;
- (c) the information represented on the application for registration of the non-profit organization is manifestly incorrect; or
- (d) the name of the non-profit organization is different from the name in which the entity was established as a company, trust, partnership, foundation or body established by statute.

11. Restriction on name of non-profit organization.

- (1) No non-profit organization shall be registered under this Act under a name that—
 - (a) is identical with the name of an existing non-profit organization, company or other entity or a name that so nearly resembles the name of an existing non-profit organization, company or other entity so as to be calculated to deceive or confuse, except where the non-profit organization in existence is in the course of being dissolved or signifies its consent in such manner as the Registrar approves;
 - (b) contains, without express prior permission of the Registrar whose permission may be withheld without assigning a reason, the words “Assurance”, “Bank”, “Building Society”, “Chamber of Commerce”, “Chartered”, “Cooperative Exchange”, “Imperial”, “Insurance”, “Municipal”, “Royal”, or a word conveying a similar meaning, or any other word that, in the opinion of the Registrar, suggests or is calculated to suggest —
 - (i) the patronage of the Government of The Bahamas or a Minister of the Government of The Bahamas or of a foreign Government;
 - (ii) a connection with any Ministry or Department of the Government of The Bahamas or with a foreign Government;
 - (iii) a connection with any local or foreign authority or statutory board;
 - (c) is indecent, offensive or, in the opinion of the Registrar, is otherwise objectionable; or
 - (d) is in the opinion of the Registrar, likely to mislead the public as to the true nature of the purposes of the non-profit organization as set out in the trusts, or of the activities which the non-profit organization carries on under its trusts in pursuit of those purposes.
- (2) Where a non-profit organization is registered under a name that —

- (a) is identical with a name under which a non-profit organization in existence is already registered; or
- (b) so nearly resembles the name of an existing non-profit organization to be calculated to deceive or confuse,

the Register may, whether or not the consent of the non-profit organization in existence has been obtained pursuant to subsection (1)(a), give notice to the last registered non-profit organization to change its name and the time period by which such change shall occur.

- (3) A notice issued in accordance with subsection (2) shall specify that the non-profit organization shall change its name to a name that the Registrar deems appropriate, and the Registrar shall publish a notice of the change in the *Gazette*.
- (4) A change in the name of a non-profit organization under this section does not affect the rights or obligations of the non-profit organization, and any legal proceedings that might have been continued or commenced, by or against it, in its former name may be continued or commenced, by or against it, in its new name.
- (5) Where the name of a non-profit organization is changed pursuant to this section, the Registrar shall reflect the change of name in the register.

PART IV – POWERS OF THE REGISTRAR

12. Cancellation or suspension of registration.

- (1) The Registrar shall cancel or suspend the registration of a non-profit organization if, after an investigation, it is proven that the non-profit organization—
 - (a) engaged in or is engaging in an activity that is an identified risk;
 - (b) failed, without reasonable cause, to maintain proper financial statements reflecting all monies received and expended;
 - (c) failed, without reasonable cause, to submit annual returns, notice or other required documents; or
 - (d) failed, without reasonable cause, to pay any fee for registration,
 provided that the power to cancel or suspend in relation to paragraphs (b) to (d) is only exercised on the second occurrence of the same infraction.
- (2) Where the Registrar or the Attorney-General determines that an investigation into the operations of a non-profit organization is required, the Registrar may suspend the registration of the non-profit organization during the period of that investigation.

- (3) Where the registration of a non-profit organization has been cancelled or suspended, the Registrar shall, as soon as is practicable, notify the Minister of the cancellation or suspension and—
- (a) in the case of a cancellation, the Registrar may make a recommendation to the Minister for the money or other property received by the non-profit organization to be dealt with by the court; or
 - (b) in the case of a suspension, the Registrar may make a recommendation to the Minister that an order be made prohibiting the non-profit organization from dealing with any money or other property under its control.
- (4) In any case where the registration of a non-profit organization has been or is liable to be cancelled or suspended the Registrar shall give notice to the non-profit organization by publishing such notice in a daily newspaper in circulation in The Bahamas stating that its registration —
- (a) is liable to be cancelled or suspended; or
 - (b) has been cancelled or suspended,
- at the end of thirty days from the date of such notice or within such other period as the Registrar determines.
- (5) Before exercising his powers to cancel or suspend under this section, the Registrar shall give a non-profit organization an opportunity to show cause, in writing, why its registration should not be cancelled or suspended.
- (6) The Registrar may revoke his decision to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of a non-profit organization if it appears to the Registrar that there has been a change in circumstances which justify the revocation.

13. Removal from the register.

- (1) The Registrar shall remove from the register —
- (a) a non-profit organization that fails to conduct its affairs in accordance with its objects;
 - (b) a non-profit organization that fails to submit any return, notice or other required document or fee to the Registrar as required by this Act;
 - (c) a non-profit organization that is dissolved;
 - (d) a non-profit organization that refuses to comply with any request or direction given by the Registrar pursuant to this Act;
 - (e) a non-profit organization whose registration is revoked or cancelled in accordance with this Act;
 - (f) a non-profit organization that has ceased to carry on operations.

- (2) The Registrar shall remove a non-profit organization from the register if it no longer appears to the Registrar to be a non-profit organization by virtue of—
- (a) a change in its purposes; or
 - (b) it ceasing to function as a non-profit organization,
- with effect from the date of the change or the time at which it ceases to function as a non-profit organization.
- (3) Where the Registrar is of the opinion that a non-profit organization is in default with respect to any requirement as to a return, notice, document or fee, he shall send a notice to that non-profit organization advising it of the default and stating that, unless the default is remedied within twenty-one days after the receipt of the notice, the non-profit organization shall be removed from the Register.

14. Power to impose fines.

The Registrar may impose fines not exceeding five thousand dollars, if after investigation it is proven that the non-profit organization has —

- (a) failed, without reasonable cause, to maintain proper financial statements reflecting all monies received and expended;
- (b) failed, without reasonable cause, to submit annual returns, notice or other required documents; or
- (c) failed, without reasonable cause, to pay any fee for registration.

15. Power to conduct on-site inspections.

- (1) The Registrar may, from time to time and at the expense of a non-profit organization, conduct on-site inspections of the business of the non-profit organization for the purpose of satisfying himself that the non-profit organization is in compliance with the provisions of this Act and the Register of Beneficial Ownership Act, 2018 and any regulations made thereunder.
- (2) The Registrar may, in such cases where he is unable to conduct an on-site inspection, designate a suitably qualified person to conduct the inspection, and that person shall submit a report thereon to the Registrar.

16. Power to require information.

- (1) The Registrar may, by written order, require any person to provide the Registrar with any information that is in the possession of that person, and which —
- (a) relates to any non-profit organization; and

- (b) is relevant to the discharge of the functions of the Registrar under this Act.
- (2) A person is not required under subsection (1) to produce or provide information that the person would be entitled to refuse to produce or provide on the grounds of legal professional privilege.

PART V - RECORD-KEEPING AND REPORTING

17. Records as to purpose.

A non-profit organization shall keep at its registered address records that are enough to show —

- (a) its purposes, objectives and activities; and
- (b) the identity of the persons who control or direct its activities, including, as appropriate, senior officers, directors and trustees.

18. Obligation to maintain accounting records.

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), a non-profit organization shall keep at its registered office address reliable accounting records which—
 - (a) show and explain its transactions, within The Bahamas, that are sufficiently detailed to show that its funds have been used in a manner consistent with its purposes, objectives and activities; and
 - (b) show the sources of its gross annual income,
 so that its financial position can be determined with reasonable accuracy.
- (2) Accounting records maintained pursuant to this section shall be kept for a minimum of five years from the date of the transaction to which the record relates.
- (3) A non-profit organization that contravenes subsection (1) or (3) commits an offence and is liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars.

19. Declaration of availability of accounting records.

- (1) A non-profit organization shall maintain at its registered office address a declaration stating that —
 - (a) it is maintaining reliable accounting records; and
 - (b) its accounting records shall be made available through its office, accountant or auditor.
- (2) A non-profit organization shall submit a duplicate copy of the declaration to the Registrar in a form prescribed by the Registrar.

- (3) A non-profit organization whose business turnover does not exceed one hundred thousand dollars per annum shall not be required to submit a declaration under this section.
- (3) Where a non-profit organization changes its registered office address subsequent to the submission of a declaration, it shall provide the newly appointed address with a declaration in accordance with subsection (1) and the office shall submit a duplicate copy of the declaration made by the non-profit organization to the Registrar within thirty days of the date of the new appointment.

20. Submission of declaration of availability of accounting records.

- (1) A non-profit organization shall within sixty days of its registration submit its declaration of availability of accounting records.
- (2) A non-profit organization that was registered prior to the coming into force of this Act shall submit its declaration within ninety days of the coming into force of this Act.

21. Production of records.

- (1) The Registrar may, on the grounds specified in subsection (2), by written notice, require a non-profit organization to produce the accounting records that are required to be kept under section 18.
- (2) The Registrar may give notice under subsection (1) only where he reasonably requires the records specified in the notice to assess the extent to which the non-profit organization is engaged in activities that are identified risks.
- (3) A notice given under subsection (1) —
 - (a) shall specify—
 - (i) the records which the Registrar requires the non-profit organization to produce;
 - (ii) the place at which the records specified in the notice must be produced to the Registrar; and
 - (iii) the period within which the records must be produced;
 - (b) may require the documents to be produced to a person or persons specified in the notice.
- (4) The Registrar may require the person who produced the records or any person who appears to be an officer or employee of the non-profit organization or otherwise associated with it, to provide an explanation of the records.
- (5) The Registrar may take copies or extracts of the records or retain the original records for—

- (a) a period not exceeding one year; or
 - (b) such longer period as the court may, on the application of the Registrar, specify.
- (6) A non-profit organization which fails to comply with a notice issued under subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars.
- (7) A person required to provide an explanation under subsection (4), commits an offence if he, without reasonable excuse, fails to provide the explanation and shall be liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars.

22. Confidentiality of accounting records.

- (1) Subject to subsection (2) a non-profit organization's accounting records shall be held in confidence by the Registrar.
- (2) If the Registrar has reasonable cause to suspect that a non-profit organization, is engaged in any activity which qualifies as an identified risk, the Registrar shall, after consultation with the Minister, provide the accounting records and all other relevant information to the Commissioner of Police or the Financial Intelligence Unit for investigation.

23. Reportable donations and disbursements.

A non-profit organization shall submit to the Registrar all donations and disbursements of thirty thousand dollars or more made by a person on an annual basis where the donation or disbursement is made as a lump sum or as aggregate sums.

PART VI – DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

24. Transfer of members interests.

- (1) Unless the constitution of a non-profit organization otherwise provide, the interest of a member in such a non-profit organization shall not be transferable, and shall lapse and cease to exist upon his death or when he shall cease to be a member by resignation or otherwise in accordance with the constitution of the non-profit organization.
- (2) Where the constitution of a non-profit organization provide that the interest of a member shall be transferable, any restriction on such interest shall be void.

25. Dissolution and distribution.

- (1) The constitution of a non-profit organization may provide that, upon dissolution, the remaining property of the non-profit organization shall be distributed among the members or among the members of a class or classes of members or to one designated organization or more, or to any combination thereof.
- (2) Where the constitution of a non-profit organization do not provide for a distribution of its remaining property in accordance with subsection (1), the non-profit organization shall, by a resolution of directors, after payment of all debts and liabilities, distribute or dispose of the remaining property to any organization in The Bahamas the undertaking of which is charitable or beneficial to the non-profit organization at large.
- (3) Where the constitution does not contain a provision for the distribution of remaining property to the members, the constitution may not be amended so to provide.

PART VII - MISCELLANEOUS**26. Supplying false or misleading information or withholding of information.**

- (1) A person commits an offence if that person —
 - (a) deliberately provides inaccurate information to the Registrar that is purported to follow a requirement imposed by or under this Act;
 - (b) alters, suppresses, conceals or destroys a document that he is required under this Act to keep or produce to the Registrar;
 - (c) withholds information when requested by the Registrar to produce such information or fails to discharge a duty imposed by or under this Act.
- (2) A person who contravenes this section shall be liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars.

27. Right of appeal.

A non-profit organization may appeal to the court against a decision of the Registrar to—

- (a) refuse an application for registration; or
- (b) cancel or suspend its registration.

28. Limitation period.

- (1) The Registrar shall not issue a notice to a person with respect to a contravention of this Act after the end of a period of three years commencing on the date that the Registrar first became aware of the contravention.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Registrar is deemed to have become aware of a contravention if the Registrar has received information from which the contravention can reasonably be inferred.

29. Fees.

The fees to be paid by a non-profit organization for the purposes of this Act are specified in the *Second Schedule*.

30. Amendment of schedules.

The Minister may, by order, amend the Schedules to this Act.

31. Regulations.

The Minister may make regulations for the proper carrying out of this Act.

32. Revocation of S.I. 47 of 2014.

The Companies (Non-Profit Organizations) Regulations (*S.I. 47 of 2014*) are hereby revoked.

33. Savings and Transitional provisions.

- (1) Notwithstanding the revocation of the Companies (Non-Profit Organizations) Regulations (*S.I. 47 of 2014*), as from the date of commencement of this Act all notices, designations and certificates issued thereunder, are deemed to have been done under this Act.
- (2) A non-profit organization, which is registered pursuant to the Companies (Non-Profit Organizations) Regulations (*S.I. 47 of 2014*) shall be required to register under this Act within ninety days of coming into force of this Act.
- (3) Every matter and proceeding commenced in any court in relation to a non-profit organization immediately before the date of the commencement of this Act shall be continued, completed and enforced as if this Act was not in force.

FIRST SCHEDULE

(Section 8 (2) & (5))

REGISTRATION FORM FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS

The Form should be completed and attached to the Memorandum and Articles of Association or Constitution and submitted for approval of a certificate of registration at the Registrar of Non-Profit Companies. The purpose of this Form is to provide information required to create a Register of Non-Profit Organizations under the Non-Profit Organizations Act, 2018.

It is **IMPORTANT** that you **ACCURATELY** complete and confirm all information provided before submitting this Form. The Registrar of Non-Profit Companies accepts no responsibility for the information provided in this Form.

Date of submission _____
(dd/mm/yy)

Tick the appropriate box:

- new application
- renewal of registration
- change of information

Note: In the case of a new application or renewal of registration, all sections must be completed.

In the case of an application to change of information, the relevant sections must be completed.

Please attach a separate sheet of paper if additional space is required.

1. ORGANISATION CONTACT DETAILS

Name (or proposed name) of Non -profit Organization (“NPO”)

Contact details Office Telephone Cell Phone Email

for NPO

Address

Website (if any)

2. CONTROLLER(S) CONTACT INFORMATION

Name

Address

Telephone (if different from above)

Position in NPO

Email

3. ORGANISATION OPERATING DETAILS

NPO MISSION STATEMENT

NPO VISION STATEMENT

NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS BILL, 2018

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In full detail, please describe the **PURPOSE** (or *intended purpose*) of the NPO:

In full detail, please describe the **ACTIVITIES** (or *intended activities*) of the NPO:

Please provide a copy of the organization's **CONSTITUTION** (or *intended constitution*) or **MEMORANDUM and ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

Does your organization have subsidiary organization(s)? YES/NO

If yes, please list the subsidiary organization(s):

1._

2._

3._

Note: If your organization has subsidiary organizations, in addition to completing sections 5-7 for your organization, please copy and complete sections 5 – 7 for each subsidiary organization.

Please state the criteria for becoming a member of your organization:

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Please provide the following:

- Total number of members: _
- Number of adult members: _
- Number of child members (i.e. persons under 18):_ (please attach a sample of your parental consent form)
- At least one sample proof of membership (e.g. membership certificate/card, official letter given to members, annual membership registration list).
- Names, address, telephone numbers and email addresses of the executive body:

Name

Telephone

PRESIDENT Address

Email address

VICE PRESIDENT

Name

Telephone

Address

Email**SECRETARY****Name****Telephone****Address****Email****TREASURER****Name****Telephone****Address****Email**

Note: Any changes to the Executive Body must be reported within 30 days. Please attach a separate sheet of paper if additional space is required.

4. ORGANISATION'S EXPENDITURE REPORT

State NPO's financial year end: **Is there a first-time membership fee?**

YES/NO

If yes, how much?

Is there an annual membership fee?

YES/NO

If yes, how much?

NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS BILL, 2018

Does your NPO have operational costs? YES/NO

If yes, please complete the fields below.

Name of operational cost (e.g. rent, gas, electricity)	Total annual cost incurred
1	
2	
3	
4	

Are any wages, salaries, and/or personal emoluments paid by the NPO? YES/NO

If yes, please complete the fields below.

Name	Position	Hourly wage/annual salary/personal emolument
1		
2		
3		
4		

5. REPORT ON FUNDS RAISED ANNUALLY

Note: If an activity, for example a bake sale is held more than once in the period under review; indicate the total funds collected from all sales instead of listing individually.

NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS BILL, 2018

Total funds raised during your last financial year?	Total amount	Total amount raised <u>within</u> The Bahamas	Total amount raised <u>outside</u> of The Bahamas
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Details of fund-raising

Date	Event(s)	Purpose of event	Amount raised
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6. FUNDS RECEIVED THROUGH DONATIONS ANNUALLY

Total funds received through donation during your last financial year?	Total amount	Total amount received through donations <u>within</u> The Bahamas	Total amount received through donations <u>outside</u> of The Bahamas
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Details of donations

Date	Reason for donation	Name of donor	Amount donated
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1

2

3

NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS BILL, 2018

4			
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7. REPORT ON FUNDS DISBURSED ANNUALLY

Total funds distributed in your last year?	Total amount	Total amount distributed within The Bahamas	Total amount distributed outside The Bahamas
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Details of Distributions

Date	Event	Purpose	Amount distributed
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

SECOND SCHEDULE

(section 29)

FEES

1. Application for registration
 - (a) for newly formed organizations \$100.00
 - (b) for existing organizations
 - (i) where gross annual income does not exceed two hundred and fifty thousand dollars \$50.00
 - (ii) where gross annual income exceeds two hundred and fifty thousand dollars \$100.00
2. Application for renewal of registration
 - (a) where gross annual income does not exceed two hundred and fifty thousand dollars \$50.00
 - (b) where gross annual income exceeds two hundred and \$100.00

	fifty thousand dollars	
3.	Certified copy of a document	\$25.00
4.	Uncertified copy of a document	\$10.00
5.	Certificate of good standing	\$50.00

OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Non-profit Organization Bill, 2018 revokes and replaces the Companies (Non-Profit Organizations) Regulations (*S.I. 47 of 2014*). The Bill seeks to provide for the regulation of non-profit organizations to ensure that such organizations are operating in a transparent manner and are not engaged in activities which constitute an identified risk.

Clause 2 of the Bill defines “identified risks” as having the meaning ascribed to it under the Proceeds of Crimes Act (*Ch. 93*), namely that in relation to a non-profit organization, any act that involves corruption, cybercrime, human trafficking, money laundering, proliferation or financing of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism or financing of terrorism, or such other act that the Minister under the Proceeds of Crime Act may prescribe by Order.

A non-profit organization is defined under clause 2 of the Bill as body of persons whether incorporated or unincorporated or a trust formed and established for the purpose of promoting public policies or objects that are religious, charitable, educational, scientific, historical, fraternal, literary, sporting, artistic or athletic, and whose profits, if any, and other income are applied to the promotion of those objects, or for which there is a prohibition of any dividend or refund of contributions to its members. It must be noted that a non-profit company under the Companies Act is included under this Act as a non-profit organization.

Clause 3 of the Bill seeks to provide that the Act will not apply to to friendly societies under the Friendly Societies Act (*Ch. 313*). The Bill will apply to non-profit companies formed under the Companies Act, 2018.

Part II of the Bill (clause 4 -8) deals with the administration. Clause 4 of the Bill seeks to provide for the appointment of the Registrar of Non-profit Organizations, who will be responsible for the administration of the Act.

Clause 5 seeks to provide for the functions of the Registrar, which include, among other things-

- (a) receiving representations from the public about persons who have engaged in, or are engaging in conduct that constitutes, or may constitute a breach of this Act or an identified risk;

- (h) referring cases of non-compliance with this Act, including acts of misconduct or mismanagement to the Commissioner of Police;
- (i) enhancing the accountability of non-profit organizations to donors, beneficiaries and the general public; and
- (j) promoting public trust and confidence in non-profit organizations.

Clause 6 of the Bill seeks to provide that the Minister has the power to give general policy directions to the Registrar relating to the exercise of the Registrar's functions and the Registrar shall comply with such directions.

Clauses 7 of the Bill provides for the establishment of a non-profit register which shall be open to public inspection during regular working hours.

Part III (clauses 8 -11) of the Bill deals with the registration of non-profit organizations.

Clause 8 of the Bill provides the matters which the Registrar takes into consideration when processing an application for registration. Some of those considerations include, among other things—

- (a) the organization's anticipated source of contributions;
- (b) the organization's records of contributions and contributors;
- (c) evidence of how contributions were or are to be applied;
- (d) evidence of "Know Your Client" compliance; and
- (e) evidence of board structure and function.

Clause 9 of the Bill seeks to establish that a certificate of registration will be valid for three years only. The grounds for refusal of an application to register are also provided for under this Part.

Part IV (clauses 12 -16) of the Bill covers the powers of the Registrar.

Clause 13 of the Bill seeks to provide the grounds upon which the Registrar can strike a non-profit organization off the register. Clause 14 deals with the Registrar's power to require certain information from a non-profit organization.

Part V (clauses 17-23) deals with record keeping and reporting obligations of a non-profit organization, which include records as to purpose and maintaining accounting records, as well as making a declaration of the availability of such accounting records.

Clause 21 of the Bill seeks to provide that where the Registrar may give written notice to require the production of accounting records only where he or she reasonably requires the records specified in the notice to assess the extent to which the non-profit organization is engaged in activities that are identified risks.

Clause 22 of the Bill seeks to provide that the Registrar shall hold accounting records in confidence. Furthermore, the clause seeks to provide that

if the Registrar has reasonable cause to suspect that a non-profit organization, is engaged in any activity which qualifies as an identified risk, the Registrar shall, after consultation with the Minister, provide the accounting records and all other relevant information to the Commissioner of Police or the Financial Intelligence Unit for investigation.

Clause 23 of the Bill seeks to provide that non-profit organizations must report to the Registrar any donations or disbursements of \$10,000 or more made by one person in a year, whether the sum is paid in a lump sum or as aggregate sums.

Part VI (clauses 24- 25) deals with disposal of assets with respect to a non-profit organization.

Part VII (clauses 26 -33) provides for the miscellaneous provisions.

Clause 26 of the Bill seeks to provide the offences of supplying false information to the registrar; providing misleading information and withholding information.

Clause 27 of the Bill seeks to provide that the right of appeal to a court against a decision of the Registrar to refuse an application for registration or the cancel or suspend the registration of a non-profit organization.

Clauses 33 of the Bill seeks to provide for savings and transitional provisions to ensure that relevant acts done under the revoked Companies (Non-Profit Organizations) Regulations (*S.I. 47 of 2014*) are preserved. Additionally, that registrants done under the revoked Regulations must register within 90 days of it coming into force the Act.

NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS ACT, 2019

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NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS ACT, 2019

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS AND FOR CONNECTED PURPOSES

Enacted by the Parliament of The Bahamas

PART I - PRELIMINARY

1. Short title and commencement.

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Non-profit Organizations Act, 2019.
- (2) This Act shall come into force on a date to be appointed by the Minister by notice published in the *Gazette* and the Minister may appoint a different date for the coming into force of different sections.

2. Interpretation.

In this Act —

“**controller**” means —

- (a) a trustee of a trust, where the non-profit organization is established as a trust;
- (b) a director of a company, where the non-profit organization is established as a company;
- (c) a general partner of a partnership, where the non-profit organization is established as a partnership;
- (d) a person or slate of officers or trustees responsible for all aspects of management and administration of an unincorporated association, where the non-profit organization is established as an unincorporated association;

- (e) a member of a corporation, where the non-profit organization is established as an entity incorporated by statute;
- (f) a founder of a foundation, where the non-profit organization is established as a foundation; or
- (g) any person not specified in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f) where the non-profit organization is established by that person;

“financial records” means records that show —

- (a) and explain a non-profit organization’s transactions in enough detail to demonstrate that its funds have been used in a manner consistent with its purposes, objectives and activities; and
- (b) the sources of its gross annual income, so that its financial position can be determined with reasonable accuracy”;

“financial year” means the financial year of a non-profit organization;

“gross annual income” means, with respect to a non-profit organization, the total income of the non-profit organization from any source during the twelve months immediately preceding the first day of that period, including, but not limited to—

- (a) income received from the provision of goods and services;
- (b) rental income;
- (c) interest and other income derived from its investments;
- (d) donations of money or other property made to it; and
- (e) any other monetary grants in kind donations made to it;

“identified risks” has the meaning ascribed to it under the Proceeds of Crimes Act (*Ch. 93*), namely that in relation to a non-profit organization, any act that involves corruption, cybercrime, human trafficking, money laundering, proliferation or financing of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism or financing of terrorism, or such other act that the Minister under the Proceeds of Crime Act may prescribe by Order;

“Minister” means the Minister responsible for non-profit organizations;

“non-profit organization” means a body of persons whether incorporated or unincorporated, formed and established for the purpose of promoting public policies or objects that are religious, charitable, educational, scientific, environmental, historical, cultural, fraternal, literary, sporting, artistic, athletic or promoting health, and whose gross annual income or any part thereof, if any, and other income are applied to the promotion of those objects, and there is a prohibition of any dividend or refund of contributions to its members, but excludes a religious or charitably founded school

registered with the Ministry of Education, and any organization with political objectives;

“**register**” means the register of non-profit organizations established and maintained under section 6;

“**Registrar**” means the Registrar General.

PART II – ADMINISTRATION

3. Registrar of non-profit organizations.

- (1) The Registrar shall be responsible for the administration of this Act.
- (2) The Registrar may, in writing, designate a suitably qualified person to perform the duties and functions of the Registrar under this Act.

4. Functions of the Registrar.

The functions of the Registrar are —

- (a) to receive, consider and process applications for registration as a non-profit organization;
- (b) to ensure that all non-profit organizations have appropriate internal controls in place, including an appropriate system to identify conduct which may involve identified risks;
- (c) to ensure that the financial records relating to a non-profit organization are preserved for a minimum of five years;
- (d) to identify apparent cases of misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of non-profit organizations;
- (e) to receive representations from the public about persons who have engaged in, or are engaging in conduct that constitutes, or may constitute a breach of this Act or an identified risk;
- (f) to refer cases or acts of misconduct or mismanagement to the Commissioner of Police;
- (g) to enhance the accountability of non-profit organizations to donors, beneficiaries and the general public;
- (h) to promote public trust and confidence in non-profit organizations;
- (i) to encourage and promote the effective use of charitable resources;
- (j) to educate and assist non-profit organizations in relation to matters of good governance and management, including —
 - (i) issuing guidelines or recommendations on the best practice to be observed by non-profit organizations, fiduciaries and other

- persons concerned with the management or administration of non-profit organizations;
- (ii) issuing model rules; and
 - (iii) providing information to non-profit organizations about their rights, duties and obligations under this Act;
- (k) to stimulate and promote research into any matter relating to non-profit organizations, including —
- (i) collecting and disseminating information or research about non-profit organizations;
 - (ii) advising on areas where further research or information about non-profit organizations should be undertaken or collected; and
 - (iii) entering contracts or arrangements for research or information about non-profit organizations to be undertaken or collected;
- (l) to make appropriate information available to assist persons in submitting registration applications under this Act;
- (m) to give information or advice, or make proposals to the Minister on matters relating to any of the Registrar's functions or achieving any of his objectives;
- (n) to consider, report and make recommendations on any matter relating to non-profit organizations, including matters —
- (i) referred by the Minister; or
 - (ii) initiated by the Registrar on his own accord; and
- (o) to perform any other function conferred by this Act or that the Minister may direct the Registrar to perform in accordance with this Act.

5. Powers of the Minister.

- (1) The Minister may give general policy directions to the Registrar relating to the exercise of the Registrar's functions and the Registrar shall comply with such directions.
- (2) The Minister may from time to time, after consultation with the Registrar, issue guidance notes to be published in the Gazette for the better management of non-profit organizations registered under this Act.

6. Establishment of a register of non-profit organizations.

- (1) The Registrar shall establish and maintain a register of non-profit organizations.

- (2) The register shall include the following information with respect to a non-profit organization —
 - (a) its name, registered office address, telephone number and e-mail address;
 - (b) its purposes and activities;
 - (c) the identity of the founder and controller;
 - (d) the date of registration of a non-profit organization under this Act, and if applicable, the date on which its registration was cancelled; and
 - (e) such other information as the Registrar considers appropriate.
- (3) The register shall be prepared and kept in such manner as the Registrar thinks fit.
- (4) The Registrar shall supply any person, on payment of the requisite fee with copies of, or extracts from, any document in his possession which is for the time being open to public inspection in accordance with this Act.
- (5) The register shall be open for inspection, at the office of the Registrar by members of the public, during regular working hours.

PART III – REGISTRATION

7. Registration of non-profit organizations.

- (1) A non-profit organization shall not carry out operations unless it is registered under this Act.
- (2) Subject to section 34(3), a non-profit organization shall submit to the Registrar, an application to register in accordance with the form set out in the *First Schedule*.
- (3) Subject to subsection (4), the Registrar shall register the non-profit organization and issue to the non-profit organization a certificate of registration upon —
 - (a) being satisfied that the non-profit organization is suitable for registration; and
 - (b) payment of the fee set out in the *Third Schedule*.
- (4) In considering an application for registration, the Registrar shall have regard to —
 - (a) the declared purposes of the non-profit organization;
 - (b) the identity of the controller and other members of the non-profit organization;
 - (c) copies or particulars of the organizational documents; and

- (d) evidence of the board structure.
- (5) The controller, or last controller of a non-profit organization shall —
 - (a) notify the Registrar if the non-profit organization ceases to exist, or if there is any change in its purposes, trusts, membership or other entered in the register; and
 - (b) supply the Registrar with particulars of any such changes under paragraph (a) and with copies of all relevant documents, within thirty days after such cessation or change, or such longer period as the Registrar may, in his discretion, allow.
- (6) A person who carries on operations without registering in accordance with this section, commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars or a term of imprisonment not exceeding one year, or to both such fine and term of imprisonment.
- (7) A certificate of registration is valid for a period of two years from the date of issue.

8. Renewal of registration.

The Registrar shall renew a certificate of registration upon an application being made in the form set out in the First Schedule and the payment of the fee set out in the Third Schedule.

9. Refusal of application to register.

The Registrar shall refuse to register a non-profit organization if —

- (a) the activities of the applicant do not fall within the definition of non-profit organization under section 2;
- (b) notwithstanding the declared objects, the non-profit organization is established for illegal purposes;
- (c) the information represented on the application for registration of the non-profit organization is manifestly incorrect; or
- (d) the name of the non-profit organization is different from the name in which the entity was established as a company, trust, partnership, foundation, unincorporated entity or body established by statute.

10. Restriction on name of non-profit organization.

- (1) No non-profit organization shall be registered under this Act under a name that—
 - (a) is identical with the name of an existing non-profit organization, company or other entity or a name that so nearly resembles the name of an existing non-profit organization, company or other entity to be calculated to deceive or confuse, except

where the non-profit organization in existence is in the course of being dissolved or signifies its consent in such manner as the Registrar approves;

- (b) contains, without express prior permission of the Registrar whose permission may be withheld without assigning a reason, the words “Assurance”, “Bank”, “Building Society”, “Chamber of Commerce”, “Chartered”, “Cooperative Exchange”, “Imperial”, “Insurance”, “Municipal”, “Royal”, or a word conveying a similar meaning, or any other word that, in the opinion of the Registrar, suggests or is calculated to suggest —
 - (i) the patronage of the Government of The Bahamas or a Minister of the Government of The Bahamas or of a foreign Government;
 - (ii) a connection with any Ministry or Department of the Government of The Bahamas or with a foreign Government;
 - (iii) a connection with any local or foreign authority or statutory board;
 - (c) is indecent, offensive or, in the opinion of the Registrar, is otherwise objectionable; or
 - (d) is in the opinion of the Registrar, likely to mislead the public as to the true nature of the purposes of the non-profit organization as set out in the trusts, or of the activities which the non-profit organization carries on under its trusts in pursuit of those purposes.
- (2) Where a non-profit organization is registered under a name that —
- (a) is identical with a name under which a non-profit organization in existence is already registered; or
 - (b) so nearly resembles the name or known trading name of an existing non-profit organization or an incorporated entity, whether local or international, to be calculated to deceive or confuse,

the Registrar may, whether or not the consent of the non-profit organization in existence has been obtained pursuant to subsection (1)(a), give notice to the last registered non-profit organization to change its name and the time period by which such change shall occur.

- (3) A notice issued in accordance with subsection (2) shall specify that the non-profit organization shall change its name to a name that the Registrar deems appropriate, and the Registrar shall publish a notice of the change in the *Gazette*.
- (4) A change in the name of a non-profit organization under this section does not affect the rights or obligations of the non-profit organization, and any legal proceedings that might have been continued or commenced, by or

against it, in its former name may be continued or commenced, by or against it, in its new name.

- (5) Where the name of a non-profit organization is changed pursuant to this section, the Registrar shall reflect the change of name in the register.

PART IV – POWERS OF THE REGISTRAR

11. Cancellation or suspension of registration.

- (1) The Registrar shall cancel or suspend the registration of a non-profit organization if, after an investigation, it is proven that the non-profit organization —
- (a) engaged in or is engaging in an activity that is an identified risk;
 - (b) failed, without reasonable cause, to maintain financial records pursuant to section 19;
 - (c) failed, without reasonable cause, to submit its declaration of availability of financial records pursuant to sections 20 and 21; or
 - (d) failed, without reasonable cause, to pay any fee for registration,
- provided that the power to cancel or suspend in relation to paragraphs (b) to (d) is only exercised on or after the second occurrence of the same infraction.
- (2) Where the Registrar or the Attorney-General determines that an investigation into the operations of a non-profit organization is required, the Registrar may suspend the registration of the non-profit organization during the period of that investigation.
- (3) Where the registration of a non-profit organization has been cancelled or suspended, the Registrar shall, as soon as is practicable, notify the Minister of the cancellation or suspension and —
- (a) in the case of a cancellation, the Registrar may make a recommendation to the Minister for the money or other property received by the non-profit organization to be dealt with by the court; or
 - (b) in the case of a suspension, the Registrar may make a recommendation to the Minister that an order be made prohibiting the non-profit organization from dealing with any money or other property under its control.
- (4) In any case where the registration of a non-profit organization has been or is liable to be cancelled or suspended the Registrar shall give notice to the non-profit organization by publishing such notice in a daily newspaper in circulation in The Bahamas stating that its registration —

- (a) is liable to be cancelled or suspended; or
 - (b) will be cancelled or suspended,
- at the end of thirty days from the date of such notice or within such other period as the Registrar determines.
- (5) Before exercising his powers to cancel or suspend under this section, the Registrar shall give a non-profit organization an opportunity to show cause, in writing, why its registration should not be cancelled or suspended.
 - (6) The Registrar may revoke his decision to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of a non-profit organization if it appears to the Registrar that there has been a change in circumstances which justify the revocation.

12. Removal from the register.

- (1) The Registrar shall remove from the register a non-profit organization—
 - (a) that fails to conduct its affairs in accordance with its objects;
 - (b) that fails to submit any return, notice, or other required document or fee to the Registrar as required by this Act;
 - (c) that fails, where required, to maintain accounting records;
 - (d) that is dissolved;
 - (e) that refuses to comply with any request or direction given by the Registrar pursuant to this Act;
 - (f) whose registration is revoked or cancelled in accordance with this Act;
 - (g) that has ceased to carry on operations.
- (2) The Registrar shall remove a non-profit organization from the register if it no longer appears to the Registrar to be a non-profit organization by virtue of—
 - (a) a change in its purposes; or
 - (b) it ceasing to function as a non-profit organization;
 - (c) it failing to maintain a required financial record,

with effect from the date of the change of the time at which it ceases to function as a non-profit organization.
- (3) Where the Registrar is of the opinion that a non-profit organization is in default with respect to any requirement as to a return, financial statement or financial records, notice, document or fee, he shall send a notice to that non-profit organization advising it of the default and stating that, unless the default is remedied within twenty-one days after the receipt of the notice, the registration shall be cancelled and the non-profit organization shall be removed from the Register.

- (4) For the purposes of paragraph (a) of subsection (2), “a change in its purpose” does not include the receipt of tuition fees or sale of items for fund-raising purposes.

13. Distribution of assets on removal from Register.

- (1) In respect of an unincorporated non-profit organization, its constitution shall specify how its assets will be distributed upon removal from the Register.
- (2) Where the constitution does not provide for a distribution of its assets in accordance under subsection (1), a non-profit organization shall, by resolution of the directors, after payment of all debts and liabilities, distribute or dispose of the remaining property to any organization in The Bahamas, the undertaking of which is in accordance with the purposes outlined in the definition of a non-profit organization in section 2.
- (3) If, upon removal from the Register, it is unclear how the assets of the non-profit organization will be distributed, the assets shall be distributed —
- (a) in respect of its cash, to the Central Bank; and
 - (b) in respect of property, to the Treasurer.

14. Prohibition of transfer of interests to members.

Notwithstanding any provision of a non-profit organization’s constitution to the contrary, no property or other interest of a non-profit organization may be transferred or paid to any member or former member of the non-profit organization.

15. Power to impose administrative fines.

- (1) The Registrar may impose an administrative fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, if after an investigation it is proven that a non-profit organization has failed, without reasonable cause to produce financial records reflecting all monies received and expended.
- (2) In the case of a continuing breach, an administrative fine not exceeding five hundred dollars for every day the breach continues shall be imposed on the non-profit organization.

16. Power to conduct on-site inspections.

- (1) The Registrar may, from time to time conduct on-site inspections of the business of that non-profit organization for the purpose of satisfying himself that the non-profit organization follows the provisions of this Act and any regulations made thereunder.

- (2) The Registrar may, in such cases where he is unable to conduct an on-site inspection, designate a compliance officer or suitably qualified person to conduct the inspection, and that person shall submit a report thereon to the Registrar.

17. Power to require information.

- (1) The Registrar may, by written order, require any person to provide the Registrar with any information that is in the possession of that person, and which —
 - (a) relates to any non-profit organization; and
 - (b) is relevant to the discharge of the functions of the Registrar under this Act.
- (2) Where the Registrar has reasonable grounds to believe or has information that a non-profit organization that is exempt from the requirement to maintain financial records under section 19(3) is engaged in activities that are identified risks, the Registrar shall, by written order —
 - (a) require that non-profit organization to submit any bank records or other information that show its financial status;
 - (b) require a bank or financial institution where the non-profit organization has an account to submit any financial records in respect of the non-profit organization.

PART V - RECORD-KEEPING AND REPORTING

18. Records as to purpose.

A non-profit organization shall keep at its registered address records that are enough to show —

- (a) its purposes, objectives and activities; and
- (b) the identity of the persons who control or direct its activities, including, as appropriate, senior officers, directors and trustees.

19. Obligation to maintain financial records.

- (1) Subject to subsection (3), a controller of a non-profit organization shall cause reliable financial records to be kept at its registered office address.
- (2) Financial records maintained pursuant to this section shall be kept for a minimum of five years from the date of the transaction to which the record relates and available for verification purposes.

- (3) A non-profit organization whose gross annual income does not exceed seventy-five thousand dollars per annum shall not be required to maintain records under this section.
- (4) A non-profit organization that contravenes subsection (1) or (3) commits an offence summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars.
- (5) No prosecution shall be commenced for a breach under this section where an administrative fine has been imposed under section 15 for that breach and such fine has been paid.

20. Declaration of availability of financial records.

- (1) Subject to section 19(3) a non-profit organization shall maintain at its registered office address a declaration, in the form set out in the *Second Schedule*, stating that —
 - (a) it is maintaining reliable financial records; and
 - (b) its financial records shall be made available through its office administrator, registered agent, registered office or person who as the non-profit organization's fiduciary, management body or other service provider, is regulated by the Banks and Trust Companies Regulation Act (*Ch. 316*) or the Financial and Corporate Service Providers Act (*Ch. 369*).
- (2) An incorporated non-profit organization that submits a declaration under the Companies Act (*Ch. 308*) is, for the purposes of meeting its obligations under this section, deemed to have submitted a declaration under this section.
- (3) A non-profit organization shall submit its declaration to the Registrar and shall maintain a duplicate copy of the declaration on its file.
- (4) Where a non-profit organization changes its registered office address subsequent to the submission of a declaration, the non-profit organization shall provide the newly appointed registered office with a declaration in accordance with subsection (1) and the new registered office shall submit a duplicate copy of the declaration made by the non-profit organization to the Registrar within thirty days of the date of the new appointment.

21. Time required to submit declaration of availability of financial records.

- (1) A non-profit organization shall submit its declaration of availability of financial records to the Registrar within ninety days of its registration.
- (2) A non-profit organization that was registered prior to the coming into force of this Act shall submit its declaration within sixty days of the coming into force of this Act.

22. Production of records.

- (1) The Registrar may, on the grounds specified in subsection (2), by written notice, require a non-profit organization to produce the financial records that are required to be kept under section 19.
- (2) The Registrar may give notice under subsection (1) only where he has reason to believe or has information that the non-profit organization is engaged in activities that are identified risks.
- (3) A notice given under subsection (1) —
 - (a) shall specify—
 - (i) the records which the Registrar requires the non-profit organization to produce;
 - (ii) the place at which the records specified in the notice must be produced to the Registrar; and
 - (iii) the period within which the records must be produced;
 - (b) may require the documents to be produced to a person or persons specified in the notice.
- (4) The Registrar may require the person who produced the records or any person who appears to be an officer or employee of the non-profit organization or otherwise associated with it, to provide an explanation of the records.
- (5) The Registrar may take copies or extracts of the records or retain the original records for—
 - (a) a period not exceeding one year; or
 - (b) such longer period as the court may, on the application of the Registrar, specify.
- (6) A non-profit organization which fails to comply with a notice issued under subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars.
- (7) A person required to provide an explanation under subsection (4), commits an offence if he, without reasonable excuse, fails to provide the explanation and shall be liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars.

23. Confidentiality of financial records.

- (1) Subject to subsection (2) a non-profit organization's financial records shall be held in confidence by the Registrar.
- (2) If the Registrar has reasonable cause to suspect that a non-profit organization, is engaged in any activity which qualifies as an identified risk, the Registrar shall, after consultation with the Minister, provide the

financial records and all other relevant information to the Financial Intelligence Unit for analysis or the Commissioner of Police for investigation.

24. Reportable donations.

- (1) A non-profit organization shall in the form set out in the *Second Schedule*, submit to the Registrar a declaration that specifies that the non-profit organization is maintaining records at its registered office address in respect of any donation that is one hundred thousand dollars and above, whether the donation is made as one lump sum or as aggregate sums.
- (2) The declaration made pursuant to subsection (1), shall be kept confidential by the Registrar and may only be disclosed to a lawful authority for analysis or investigation.
- (3) A non-profit organization shall —
 - (a) keep records with respect to reportable donations for a minimum of five years from the date of the transaction to which the record relates; and
 - (b) make those records available for verification purposes.
- (4) A non-profit organization that —
 - (a) is registered, shall submit its declaration of availability of reportable donations to the Registrar within ninety days of its registration;
 - (b) was registered prior to the coming into force of this Act shall, submit its declaration within sixty days of the coming into force of this Act.

25. Registration required to open and maintain bank accounts, etc.

- (1) For the purposes of this section “**financial institution**” and “**designated non-financial business and profession**” has the meaning ascribed to them under the Financial Transaction and Reporting Act, 2018.
- (2) A financial institution or a designated non-financial business and profession shall not open or maintain—
 - (a) a bank account; or
 - (b) an account ledger,
 - (c) any other type account,for a non-profit organization unless the organization has registered under this Act and presents evidence of such registration.

26. Freezing of accounts.

Where a non-profit organization fails to renew its registration within six months of its expiration, a financial institution or a designated non-financial business and profession shall freeze the accounts of the organization specified in subsection (2) until renewal of the registration of the non-profit organization, and the financial institution or designated non-financial business shall forthwith report the fact of such freezing to the Registrar.

26A. Non-application of Part V of the Act.

- (1) Except for sections 18,19, 20, 21 and 25, Part V of this Act does not apply to a non-profit organization that —
 - (a) does not solicit funds from the general public or receive concessions from the Government or any statutory body in the pursuit of its objects;
 - (b) has as its fiduciary, management or other service provider, a person that is registered pursuant to the Banks and Trust Companies Regulation Act (*Ch. 316*) or the Financial and Corporate Service Providers Act (*Ch. 369*);
 - (c) is a non-denominational or stand-alone religious entity or congregation which certifies, in writing, that it maintains its annual financial records and that its membership reviews and votes to approve or reject such records in its annual general meeting;
 - (d) is an internationally recognized or accredited charitable, medical, providential or relief organization;
 - (e) is a constituent unit whose members are mandated by its constitution, by-laws or documents of incorporation to have its annual financial records reviewed and voted on to approve or reject, each calendar year in an annual general meeting of its members.
- (2) An umbrella organization shall register on behalf of its constituent units.
- (3) An umbrella organization shall certify, in writing, that its constituent units have complied with its obligations to —
 - (a) maintain annual financial records; and
 - (b) cause the said records to be reviewed and voted upon each calendar year in its annual general meeting.
- (4) Where the Registrar has reasonable grounds to believe or has information that any constituent unit is engaged in activities that are identified risks, the Registrar shall, by written order —

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- (a) require that the respective constituent unit or, where applicable, the umbrella organization submit any financial records or other information that show the financial status of the constituent unit;
 - (b) require a bank or financial institution, where the constituent unit or the umbrella organization has an account, to submit any financial records; or
 - (c) exercise such powers under Part IV as the circumstances require and refer all information to the Commissioner of Police, the Attorney-General and the Director of Public Prosecutions, where it is found to the satisfaction of the Registrar that a non-profit organization under subsection (1) or a constituent unit of an umbrella organization has engaged in any identified risk activity.
- (5) For the purposes of this section —
- (a) **“constituent unit”** means a subsidiary, branch, affiliate or any other such unit of an umbrella organization;
 - (b) **“umbrella organization”** means a civic, social, fraternal or religious non-profit organization that governs and regulates its constituent units, for example, an arch-diocese, a diocese, national convention, national assembly, council or a grand or district grand lodge or chapter, local society or club district or local organization, and any entity which is internationally recognized or accredited.

PART VI - MISCELLANEOUS

27. Supplying false or misleading information or withholding of information.

- (1) A person commits an offence if that person —
 - (a) deliberately provides inaccurate information to the Registrar that is purported to follow a requirement imposed by or under this Act;
 - (b) alters, suppresses, conceals or destroys a document that he is required under this Act to keep or produce to the Registrar;
 - (c) withholds information when requested by the Registrar to produce such information or fails to discharge a duty imposed by or under this Act.
- (2) A person who contravenes this section shall be liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars or a term of imprisonment not exceeding one year or both such fine and term of imprisonment.

28. Right of appeal.

A non-profit organization may appeal to the court against a decision of the Registrar to—

- (a) refuse an application for registration; or
- (b) cancel or suspend its registration.

29. Limitation period.

- (1) The Registrar shall not issue a notice to a person with respect to a contravention of this Act after the end of a period of three years commencing on the date that the Registrar first became aware of the contravention.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Registrar is deemed to have become aware of a contravention if the Registrar has received information from which the contravention can reasonably be inferred.

30. Fees.

The fees to be paid by a non-profit organization for the purposes of this Act are specified in the *Third Schedule*.

31. Amendment of schedules.

The Minister may, by order, amend the Schedules to this Act.

32. Regulations.

The Minister may make regulations for the proper carrying out of the purposes of this Act.

33. Revocation of S.I. No. 47 of 2014.

The Companies (Non-Profit Organizations) Regulations (*S.I. No. 47 of 2014*) are hereby revoked.

34. Savings and Transitional provisions.

- (1) Notwithstanding the revocation of the Companies (Non-Profit Organizations) Regulations (*S.I. No. 47 of 2014*), as from the date of commencement of this Act all notices, designations and certificates issued thereunder, are deemed to have been done under this Act.
- (2) Every matter and proceeding commenced in any court in relation to a non-profit organization immediately before the date of the commencement of this Act shall be continued, completed and enforced as if this Act was not in force.

- (3) A non-profit organization that has a physical presence in The Bahamas and is in existence immediately before the date of the commencement of this Act, shall be deemed registered if it submits —
- (a) a registration form as set out in the *Second Schedule*; and
 - (b) a completed declaration as set out in the *Second Schedule* within ninety days of the coming into force of this Act and such non-profit organization shall be exempt from the payment of the registration fee set out in the *Third Schedule*.

FIRST SCHEDULE

(Section 8 (2) & (5))

REGISTRATION FORM FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS

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Please note: Unincorporated non-profit organizations must attach to its completed form a copy of its Constitution or intended Constitution. It is IMPORTANT that you ACCURATELY complete and confirm all information provided before submitting this Form. The Registrar of Non-Profit Companies accepts no responsibility for the information provided in this Form.

Tick the appropriate box:

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| New application | <input type="checkbox"/> | Umbrella Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Renewal of registration | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Change of information | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Projected or annual turnover of \$75,000 or more: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |

Note: In the case of an application to change of information, ONLY the relevant sections must be completed.

Please attach a separate sheet of paper if additional space is required.

1. ORGANISATION CONTACT DETAILS

NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS ACT, 2019

Name (or proposed name) of Non -profit Organization (“NPO”):

Contact details for NPO	Office Telephone:	Cell Phone:	Email:
	Address:	Website (if any):	

2. CONTROLLER(S) CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____ **Address:** _____

Telephone (if different from above): _____ **Position in NPO:** _____

Email: _____

3. ORGANISATION OPERATING DETAILS

- a. In full detail, please describe the **PURPOSE** (or intended purpose) of the NPO:

- b. Does your organization have subsidiary organization(s)? YES NO

- c. If yes, please list the subsidiary organization(s):

1. _

2. _

3. _

- d. Please provide the information below for the President, *Vice President*, *Secretary* and *Treasurer* of the non-profit organization:

PRESIDENT	Name:	
	Telephone:	Email:
	Address:	
VICE PRESIDENT	Name:	
	Telephone:	Email:
	Address:	
SECRETARY	Name:	
	Telephone:	Email:
	Address:	
TREASURER	Name:	
	Telephone:	Email:
	Address:	

If an umbrella organization, please attach a list of the full name and physical or street address of every constituent unit.

CONTROLLER DECLARATION

I, _____, controller of _____
(Name of Controller) (NPO Name)

certify that the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

SECOND SCHEDULE

(Sections 20(1), 24(1) and 34(3))

DECLARATION FORM FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS

Please note that this form must be filled out by the Controller of the non-profit or umbrella organization.

I, _____ controller of
hereby declare that: _____

- (a) reliable financial records are being maintained and are available through the office administrator/registered agent/registered office or person who as the non-profit organization's fiduciary, management body or other service provider is regulated by the Banks and Trust Companies Regulation Act (*Ch. 316*) or the Financial and Corporate Service Providers Act (*Ch. 369*); and
- (b) in respect of any donation that is one hundred thousand dollars and above, records are being maintained at the registered office address of the non-profit organization, whether the donation is made as one lump sum or as aggregate sums.

Signature: _

Date: _

THIRD SCHEDULE**(SECTIONS 26A AND 30)****FEES**

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. | Application for registration | |
| | (a) for newly formed organizations | \$100.00 |
| | (b) for existing organizations | Nil |

2.	Application for renewal of registration	\$50.00
3.	Certificate of good standing	\$50.00

OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Non-profit Organization Bill, 2018 revokes and replaces the Companies (Non-Profit Organizations) Regulations (*S.I. 47 of 2014*). The Bill seeks to provide for the regulation of non-profit organizations to ensure that such organizations are operating in a transparent manner and are not engaged in activities which constitute an identified risk.

Clause 2 of the Bill defines “identified risks” as having the meaning ascribed to it under the Proceeds of Crimes Act (*Ch. 93*), namely that in relation to a non-profit organization, any act that involves corruption, cybercrime, human trafficking, money laundering, proliferation or financing of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism or financing of terrorism, or such other act that the Minister under the Proceeds of Crime Act may prescribe by Order.

A non-profit organization is defined under clause 2 of the Bill as body of persons whether incorporated or unincorporated formed and established for the purpose of promoting public policies or objects that are religious, charitable, educational, scientific, environmental, historical, fraternal, literary, sporting, artistic, athletic or promoting health, and whose profits, if any, and other income are applied to the promotion of those objects, and there is a prohibition of any dividend or refund of contributions to its members. It must be noted that a non-profit company under the Companies Act is included under this Act as a non-profit organization.

The Bill will apply to non-profit companies formed under the Companies Act, 2018.

Part II of the Bill (clause 3 -7) deals with the administration. Clause 3 of the Bill seeks to provide for the appointment of the Registrar of Non-profit Organizations, who will be responsible for the administration of the Act.

Clause 4 seeks to provide for the functions of the Registrar, which include, among other things-

- (a) receiving representations from the public about persons who have engaged in, or are engaging in conduct that constitutes, or may constitute a breach of this Act or an identified risk;
- (h) referring cases of non-compliance with this Act, including acts of misconduct or mismanagement to the Commissioner of Police;
- (i) enhancing the accountability of non-profit organizations to donors, beneficiaries and the general public; and

- (j) promoting public trust and confidence in non-profit organizations.

Clause 5 of the Bill seeks to provide that the Minister has the power to give general policy directions to the Registrar relating to the exercise of the Registrar's functions and the Registrar shall comply with such directions.

Clauses 6 of the Bill provides for the establishment of a non-profit register which shall be open to public inspection during regular working hours.

Part III (clauses 7 -10) of the Bill deals with the registration of non-profit organizations.

Clause 7 of the Bill provides the matters which the Registrar takes into consideration when processing an application for registration. Some of those considerations include, among other things—

- (a) the organization's anticipated source of contributions;
- (b) the organization's records of contributions and contributors;
- (c) evidence of how contributions were or are to be applied;
- (d) evidence of "Know Your Client" compliance; and
- (e) evidence of board structure and function.

Clause 8 of the Bill seeks to establish that a certificate of registration will be valid for two years only. The grounds for refusal of an application to register are also provided for under this Part.

Part IV (clauses 11 -17) of the Bill covers the powers of the Registrar.

Clause 12 of the Bill seeks to provide the grounds upon which the Registrar can strike a non-profit organization off the register. Clause 13 deals with the Registrar's power to require certain information from a non-profit organization.

Part V (clauses 18-25) deals with record keeping and reporting obligations of a non-profit organization, which include records as to purpose and maintaining financial records, as well as making a declaration of the availability of such financial records.

Clause 22 of the Bill seeks to provide that the Registrar may give written notice to require the production of financial records only where he or she reasonably requires the records specified in the notice to assess the extent to which the non-profit organization is engaged in activities that are identified risks.

Clause 23 of the Bill seeks to provide that the Registrar shall hold financial records in confidence. Furthermore, the clause seeks to provide that If the Registrar has reasonable cause to suspect that a non-profit organization, is engaged in any activity which qualifies as an identified risk, the Registrar shall, after consultation with the Minister, provide the financial records and all other

relevant information to the Commissioner of Police or the Financial Intelligence Unit for investigation.

Clause 24 of the Bill seeks to provide that non-profit organizations must report to the Registrar any donations or disbursements of \$50,000 or more made by one person in a year, whether the sum is paid in a lump sum or as aggregate sums.

Clause 25 of the Bill provides for financial institutions and designated non-financial business and professions to ensure that non-profit organizations are registered in order to open and maintain bank accounts or account ledgers. Clause 26 provides that where a non-profit organization fails to renew its registration within six months of its expiration, the institutions shall freeze all the NPO's accounts. Clause 26A provides for the non-application of Part V of this Bill.

Part VI (Clause 27 - 34) provides for the miscellaneous provisions.

Clause 27 of the Bill seeks to provide the offences of supplying false information to the registrar; providing misleading information and withholding information.

Clause 28 of the Bill seeks to provide that the right of appeal to a court against a decision of the Registrar to refuse an application for registration or the cancel or suspend the registration of a non-profit organization.

Clauses 34 of the Bill seeks to provide for savings and transitional provisions to ensure that relevant acts done under the revoked Companies (Non-Profit Organizations) Regulations (*S.I. 47 of 2014*) are preserved. Additionally, that registrants done under the revoked Regulations must register within 90 days of it coming into force the Act.

The *First Schedule* makes provision for the Registration form to be completed and submitted to the Registrar General by every non-profit organization.

The *Second Schedule* makes provision for the Declaration form to be completed by every non-profit organization.

The Third Schedule makes provision for the fee entries and corresponding rate of fees to paid to the Registrar General by every non-profit organization relative to its application, obtaining both its renewal of registration and Certificate of good standing.