



INNER ACCESS

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Upcoming Events

Dear Friends and Partners:

We welcome you to Volume 2 Issue 5 of Inner Access. CDF has seen God intervene divinely and amazingly to equip us to accomplish the work He has assigned us to do. The gigantic problems of sexual abuse, commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC), and trafficking are so widespread that it can be overwhelming. But God...!

In this issue you will hear of some of the amazing things God is doing in Belize. Many times we wonder how this little organization with the limited resources that we have can fight a giant as big as human trafficking and exploitation of children. You will read of the projects CDF is involved in, and you will see the how God is using those projects like He used the stone in David's sling to kill the mighty Goliath.

We can tell you that our prayers are being answered, that Heaven is attentive to the cries of victims and the prayers that have been raised on their behalf.

According to the US State Departments TIP (Trafficking in Persons) rankings for 2011, the situation in Belize has seen some improvement as the government is becoming more aware and is beginning to take action. However, Belize is still a country of origin, transit, and destination in human trafficking. The fight to protect children and women continues. We give God thanks for the opportunity he has given us to help eradicate CSEC.

CDF is grateful for the support received from individuals, churches, and organizations. We would like to acknowledge the Australian High Commission, which awarded us a grant that we received in May. The money they provided helped fund the sensitization events being held this summer, especially in the printing of materials for participants.

We ask for your earnest prayer for the release of more resources to continue training individuals so that they will receive the necessary tools, be challenged and transformed, and take a more active part in eradicating sexual exploitation and trafficking. We thank God for your generous support and pray that as you help us protect these children that God will honor your giving and meet your needs. May God bless you!

REACHING THE CAYO DISTRICT

The Cayo District is one of the most significant areas for trafficking cases, since the border point located in the Benque area serves as a bridge for traffickers to carry exploited individuals across borders for CSEC and trafficking. Recently CDF targeted the community of Benque Viejo for sensitization and education on CSEC.

RADIO VISION

In June CDF's Ms. Diana Shaw and Mrs. Jadine Fritzler were live on Radio Vision for two hours. Ms. Diana shared about CDF and the vision that she has to help protect children and to see Belizeans be a part of eradicating sexual exploitation. She also talked about the different ways that communities could help with being advocates to help eradicate this issue. Since Radio Vision is a Spanish language station, Mrs. Jadine translated Ms. Diana's message into Spanish.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In July CDF held a community sensitization and training in Benque Viejo. Because Benque residents are primarily Spanish speakers, the conference sessions were either taught in Spanish or translated.

Though much effort went into planning, publicizing, and inviting people to this event, the attendance was much less than we had anticipated. And we know that CSEC is a problem in this area. The CDF team sensed great spiritual opposition to our efforts – our venue was changed by the city one week prior to the conference, because they wanted to hold a beauty pageant. Unscheduled fireworks went off nearby during Ms. Diana's message Friday evening.

We went away from Benque convinced that this area is greatly in need of our message. We are making plans to return in the coming year.



Outreach in Benque Viejo

"MEXICAN EMBASSY WORKSHOP"

The Mexican Embassy of Belize held a one day workshop under the theme, "A Day for Children's Rights". The purpose of this workshop was to sensitize the public on trafficking issues. CDF was invited to display the work that we are doing and to shed light on the organization. Dr. Emilio Maus Ratz was the speaker at this workshop and talked about how trafficking today is linked to slavery hundreds of years ago. TIP (trafficking in persons) is labor exploitation and sexual exploitation. There are several types of exploitation and different causes of exploitation. Dr. Ratz believes that trafficking is different in each country - some countries are sources of trafficked individuals, others are used as transit points, and others as destination points. CDF also displayed several posters and distributed several brochures as media tools to help sensitize the public on CSEC and trafficking in Belize. Ms. Montalvo, a representative for the Mexican Embassy, indicated to us that they would like to partner with CDF to help with training and other activities.

SELL TACOS, NOT CHILDREN!

Help us eradicate sexual exploitation and human trafficking in Belize

A heart is not judged by how much you love, but by how much you are loved by others.

STEP OF FAITH YOUTH SENSITIZATION

In June Ms. Diana spoke to more than 50 youth at Step of Faith Church in Belmopan. She challenged the young people to continue living godly lives and be salt and light in the world. She also spoke about how important it is to set goals for your life and maintain a godly standard to achieve those goals. Step of Faith youths were also sensitized on the issues of CSEC, and learned that God is able to redeem and restore those who have been victims of abuse. CDF expresses its appreciation to the youth leaders for the opportunity given us.

UNITED EVERGREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

We also had an opportunity to talk to students at United Evergreen Primary School. A total of 125 students from the Standard 4, 5, and 6 classes had the opportunity to learn more about sexual abuse and how to protect themselves from abusers. They heard about the ways people can deceive or force them into unwanted sexual activity. Students were encouraged to YELL and TELL if anyone tries to abuse them sexually.

VALLEY OF PEACE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION

On June 25, CDF spoke to more than 250 students in the primary school. Students were taught about how to get help by yelling and telling. On June 27, CDF partnered with a medical team and students from the US to do a community sensitization during a health fair. About 110 community members attended. The medical team provided various free medical checkups and CDF talked about abuse and how parents can protect their children from abuse. We believe that God used this time to pierce the hearts of those that heard. We were invited by two community leaders to come back and talk to parents and teachers more in-depth about CSEC and the role that parents and the church play in helping to eradicate this issue. CDF assured them that we will be available to do this follow-up in the next school year.

ESPERANZA GIRLS

On July 29 CDF went to Esperanza for a girls' day. About 30 young women between the ages of 9 and 16 attended the 3 hour workshop. The girls were divided into groups according to age, and learned about ways to protect themselves from sexual abuse, reasons to stay sexually pure, and how to make good choices. Assisting CDF was a group from New Mexico, which included a social worker and sexual trauma nurse.

Trainers emphasized the need for each girl to find an adult they really trust, to whom they can turn if they feel threatened. Sadly, in one group only 2 of the 12 girls indicated that she had such a person. *As CDF continues sensitizing and training Christians about the problems of CSEC and abuse, we pray that God will raise up adults who can be that person of trust in a young girl's life.*



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Prayer Requests

- Pray for Ms. Diana's trip to the US this month.
- Pray for our Orange Walk outreach on August 19 and 20. Pray that God will bring people to the event, and that He will open their eyes to the problem of CSEC.
- Pray for an increase of resources to continue doing the work God has called us to.
- Pray for an Administrative Assistant and for finances to pay for monthly salary.
- Pray for more volunteers to help with trainings.
- Pray for victims of exploitation and trafficking.
- Pray for perpetrators, that God will pierce their hearts and convict them.

Upcoming Events

- August 12 – 21
Ms. Diana will be in the U.S. She has been invited to speak at a Medical Missions Conference at Fuller Seminary, addressing the topic of CSEC.
- August 19 and 20
Two-day sensitization in Orange Walk. Friday will be an outreach to youth and children. Saturday will be for adults, especially Sunday school and youth workers.
- CDF is sponsoring a youth talent competition, seeking songs, dramas, etc. that we can use in media campaigns. Talent competition winners will be chosen after the August 31 deadline.
- Teachers' sensitization in August, partnering with Hettie Lue Brooks Ministry and the Ministry of Education.

Blog with us at www.cdfbelize.com

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Since it was founded in 2008, the opportunities for CDF to minister have increased. We are now involved in primary and high schools, community outreaches, women's meetings, church trainings, TV and radio talk shows – and new doors keep opening.

We continue on with God's help and the support of our donors, both in Belize and abroad. Thank you for partnering with us!

THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

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