

STUDENT HEALTH INTERVENTION PROGRAMME (SHIP) 2008/2009

The Student Health Intervention Programme Committee continues its mission of providing material support to the general welfare of young Hilarians. There are at present 30 students on the programme, which provides for eye care, other health problems, academic supplies, transportation and tuition costs as required.

During the period, another member of staff, Ms. Smart, joined our committee and our other staff representatives, Ms. Jaggernauth and Ms. Adams, who continue to be keenly interested in the programme and the welfare of our girls. We are however in dire need of a "House Mother", as Matron continues to be our direct connection with our girls, going beyond the call of duty to assist us as necessary.

The issue of an appropriate space to house the programme remains outstanding and while our girls continue to participate in the Government's School Feeding Programme, the other aspects of the programme, in particular the mentoring of our girls has been stymied. Nevertheless, the Programme coordinator, on behalf of the committee, continues to liaise with the school administration and the chairman of the Board on the matter of a new dock for SHIP.

Our finances continue to be healthy, buoyed by the regular contributions from our local supporters and the annual substantial cheque of **\$US 1,700.00** from our Washington alumnae. We thus ended the year with a balance of thirty-one thousand, seven hundred and sixty-two dollars and seventy-six cents (**\$31,762.76**).

Our annual Christmas Luncheon was, as usual, a resounding success. Thanks to our many sponsors we were able again to give the girls gift bags which delighted them.

I wish to take this opportunity to extend heartfelt thanks to the members of the committee and the supporters of our programme, many of whom remain nameless, but whose commitment ensures the success of our programme.