



COMMUNITY CORNER

Gender Affairs Moves to Tackle Domestic Violence

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The months of November and December were busy ones for the Gender Affairs Department, as they spearheaded several initiatives to tackle Domestic Violence in the Federation, as well as bring Gender issues to the forefront.

On November 28th, the Department launched the Domestic and Sexual Violence Complaints and Response Protocol – a document which guides key agencies on procedures for addressing incidents of domestic violence. According to Ms. Shinnel Charles, Gender Affairs’ Focal point for Women’s Issues, the major organizations involved in such cases are the Hospital/health care agencies, the Police Force Special Victims Unit, the Counselling Centre, the Ministry of Education (for youth), as well as the Dept. of Gender Affairs. She said *“the protocol is focused on the main agencies who would come into contact with clients, to ensure that they work together well so that the client gets the appropriate attention and intervention”*.



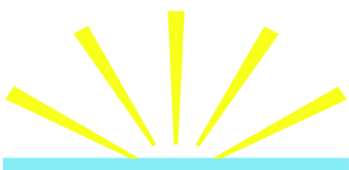
Officials at Launch Events (L-R): Ms. Celia Christopher, Ministers Wendy Phipps and Hazel Brandy-Williams, Mr. Antonio Maynard, and Ms. Alison McClean



The PAHO-funded event was held at the Bird Rock Beach Hotel and received the full support of Minister Wendy Phipps, Minister with responsibility for Gender Affairs, as well as many local stakeholders. In delivering remarks, Minister Phipps emphasized the importance of the document, noting that it would *“make sure there is unity and collaboration in getting us the kind of St. Kitts-Nevis where*

we can strongly say that we have a social system and infrastructure that support individuals when acts of violence take place”.

Following on the heels of the Protocol launch, the Department introduced discussions on the National Gender Equality Policy on November 29th, in collaboration with the SKN National Commission for UNESCO, who provided funding and support for the project. The ceremony, which was also held at Bird Rock Beach Hotel, also saw support from Ministers Phipps... *(cont'd on pg 4)*



HAPPY 2019!

Counselling Centre Moves Offices

The Counselling Centre, which for years has been located at Greenlands, has moved to a larger location at Wades Garden.

The move, which happened in November 2018, was necessary to provide accommodation for eight new Family Counsellors, who form part of the USAID

Community Family and Youth Resilience (CFYR) *Family Matters* Programme. The counsellors will intervene specifically with children and families, providing short-term counselling in areas such as anger management, communication, and conflict resolution. In this way,

they will complement the work of the existing Counselling Centre staff, and reinforce the nation’s ability to address family issues, thereby strengthening family units on the whole.

Director of the Counselling Centre ... *(cont'd on pg. 3)*

PCPS continues fight for Children's Rights



PCPS officers with staff and children of Cradles Nursery (Dorset)

November marked two important days in the fight for Children's Rights - World Day for the Prevention of Child Abuse, celebrated on November 19th, and Universal Children's Day, commemorated on November 20th.

As one of the lead advocates for children's rights in St. Kitts, the Department of Probation and Child Protection Services (PCPS) hosted several activities to commemorate the week and to raise awareness of the need to protect children from harm.

On Sunday November 18th, staff worshipped together at

the Half Way Tree Church of God, which was a lead-in to Universal Children's Day on the Monday. An activity which was originally slated for Tuesday 20th was held the week before, when the Department launched its electronic Case Management system, to enable more effective reporting and tracking of incidents of child abuse/neglect. On Wednesday, staff of the Department and the entire Ministry donned blue shirts for 'Wear Blue Day' (the colour in observance of Child Abuse), a day which was also celebrated in many of the nation's schools. Rest and reflection were had on the Friday,

with a Staff Retreat on the topic, 'Changes', facilitated by Ms. Tricia Daniel of Nevis.

PCPS Supervisor, Mr. Gerald Connor, said that child abuse is still a very pressing issue in St. Kitts-Nevis in all its forms, and that the Department wanted to bring awareness with the week of Activities, which also coincided with the anniversary of the Federation's signing of the Convention on the Rights of a Child. He noted that the Week received a lot of support from businesses and schools, and that the Department hoped to have even more support in 2019.

by Mr. Dwight Warde (Deputy Director, NHRC) and Ms. Mary Nurse-Clarke, (Teacher, NHRC)

Good news on the Horizon!

The administrative and academic staff at the *New Horizons Rehabilitation Centre* (NHRC) continue to implement programmes to cater to the varying needs of the residents entrusted to their care. A limited range of academic and vocational subjects are taught on site at the centre, facilitated by a team of three teachers assigned by the Ministry of Education along with a National Skills Training Programme team, who focus on the vocational aspects.

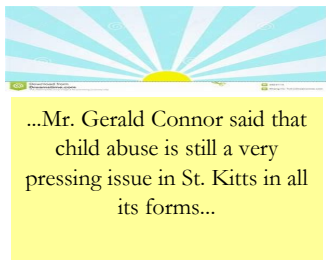
For the first few years, students who were registered to write CSEC examinations in English A, English B, Social Studies and Mathematics returned favourable passes. For the May 2017 CSEC examinations a 100% pass rate was achieved in Principles of Business (POB), a subject introduced into the

curriculum in 2015. The student who obtained a Grade 1 in POB that year also obtained a grade 2 in English B (Literature). This was accomplished as a result of his diligence and the dedication of his teacher who was supported with input from the then Head of the English Department of the Verchilds High School, Mrs. Jonace Hall-Herbert.

The academic programme continues to forge ahead and received exceptionally good results in the May 2018 CXC-CSEC Examinations. Students were registered to write Mathematics, Social Studies and Office Administration, the latter having been introduced into the curriculum only in September 2017. Grades 3 and 2 were returned in all three subjects; but special *kudos* must be given to the Mathematics teacher who dedicated personal time and

whose hard work resulted in one student obtaining a grade 2 after only 1 year of instruction. This is especially remarkable as Mathematics is a subject that presents major challenges to students nationally. The efforts of the three-man team of teachers, Mrs. Mary Clarke, Mr. Clyde Williams and Ms. G. D. Richards were amply rewarded with the satisfaction they received on hearing that the Centre had returned a 100% pass rate for the May 2018 examinations. To date 11 residents of NHRC have been registered to write 6 subjects, and have amassed 31 subject passes.

The administrative staff of NHRC congratulate the teachers who cater to the varying talents, abilities and challenges of the students and who, despite extenuating circumstances, remain dedicated to ensuring that NHRC residents are counted in the national educational statistics.



...Mr. Gerald Connor said that child abuse is still a very pressing issue in St. Kitts in all its forms...



The New Horizons Rehabilitation Centre, Saddlers

Counselling Centre Moves Offices (cont'd)

...(cont'd from pg. 1) Ms. Michele Blake said that while the previous building accommodated only two offices and a meeting room, the new building provides greater space and comfort for the Ministry's counselling staff, the new Family Counsellors, and their clients. She noted that persons who have already been to the location have commented positively on the "relaxing, spa-like atmosphere" that the new space presents.

Meanwhile, as a part of the roll-out of the *Family Matters* Programme, and in an effort to en-

sure that stakeholders are aware of the programme, its scope, functioning and referral system, the *Community Family and Youth Resilience* Programme and the Counselling Department partnered to have a one day Inter-agency meeting on October 18th, to discuss interagency protocol. The ultimate goal of the meeting was information giving and to encourage stakeholder 'buy in' to the programme. CFYR Family Counsellors also participated in refresher training and assessment of family work in the field with the Master trainer of the model, who spent a week in St. Kitts in November.

"A Walk in My Shoes"

With the aim of sensitizing the community to disabled persons and the issues they face, The St. Kitts Disabilities Association held a week of activities from November 25th-December 3rd. The week, which coincided with International Day of Persons with Disabilities, began with a

church service on Sunday 25th, visits to disabled persons in the community the following Monday, and radio 'spots' on Tuesday. Wednesday, 28th November saw the 'Walk in My Shoes' awareness exercise, in which volunteers offered to restrict their senses to experience some of the challenges persons with

Also part of the Centre's busy quarter were Mental Health Week activities, held from October 7th under the theme, *Young People And Mental Health in a Changing World*. The week saw activities such as a church service, radio 'spots', and the presentation of a local documentary and discussion on youth and suicidality to a group of eighty high-school students.

The Week ended with the popular Patient Treat/Fun Day at the Dr. Arthur Lake Mental Health Day Treatment Centre at Lime Kiln.

disabilities face daily. Several exciting events then closed the week, including a visit to Nevis, and Awards Banquet and Open Day at the McKnight Community Centre, according to Social Services officer Ms. Lavern Richards, who noted that the week went well and received much support from the community.

Basseterre High benefits from Boys Mentorship drive

The Boys' Mentorship Programme, which was piloted two years ago at the Charles E. Mills Secondary School (CEMSS), will now be reaching boys at the Basseterre High School.

The programme pairs at-risk adolescent males with positive male role models in society, who act as mentors. In 2016, 12 boys at CEMSS became matched with mentors, who provided the boys with guidance and helped them to stay 'on the right track'. According to Mr. Dion Browne, focal point for men/boys in Gender Affairs, the programme was

largely successful and was ready to be expanded. In 2018, the Basseterre High School was chosen due to issues with delinquent behaviour there, as reported by the school's guidance counsellors.

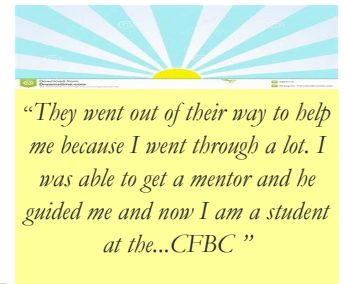
A ceremony to launch the new mentorship opportunity was held at the Agriculture Conference Room on September 27th, and attended by Gender Affairs staff, prospective mentees and mentors, as well as well-wishers and sponsors of the programme, including *The St. Kitts-Nevis Anguilla National Bank, Island Auto Supplies, Hobson Enterprises, Nagico Insurances, Delisle Wahynyn, and Rams Trading Ltd.*

At the ceremony, past mentee Mr. Devin Williams, shared his journey of struggling as a troubled teen, to being mentored and recognized as a Remarkable Teen in 2017.

"They went out of their way to help me because I went through a lot. I was able to get a mentor and he guided me and now I am a student at the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College, and I am studying Information Technology," he said. In addition to mentorship, the boys will receive life and technical skills training, counselling, and opportunities for job attachments/scholarships. Mr. Brown highlighted that his Department was also looking for new male mentors, and invited persons interested in "bettering a child's life" to apply.



Counselling Centre's new offices



Attendees at the BHS Launch Event

Seniors enjoy Special Moments during Month of the Elderly

"It was lovely", were the words of one older person, as the curtains came down on a successful month of the Elderly, celebrated from October 1st - October 31st.

Throughout the month, seniors enjoyed special activities, such as a Worship Service at the Zion Moravian Church, a Trip to Nevis, and a Spa Day in which they were pampered with beauty services, including manicures and pedicures. Further delight was had at a Luncheon at the Royal St. Kitts Hotel under the theme *Celebrating Older Human Rights Champions*, and a day-time concert at the St. Peter's Community Centre, in late October.

Ag. Director of Social Services, Ms. Ann



Seniors enjoy pampering at Spa Day

Wigley, stated that the activities were well attended, noting that the number of persons wishing to travel to Nevis was so large that the Captain had to arrange for a larger boat. In reflecting on the other events, Ms. Wigley said, *"They enjoyed the Luncheon so much that they asked, 'when are we coming back?', and they were also able to relax and feel pampered dur-*

ing the Spa days". She went on to say that the seniors had a *'bellyful of laughs'* at the day-time Concert, which featured two plays *'Man wab mek woman heart hard like iron'* and *'Under Horse Belly'*, by the Poinciana Theatre group.

In lauding the success of the month, Ms. Wigley thanked several sponsors, notably SCASPA, S.L. Horsford, Scenic Railway, the Ministry of Education, Island Purified Water, the Rotary Club of Liamuiga, Captain Skeete, the Calvary Baptist Church, the Poinciana Theatre Group, AVEC, and the Royal St Kitts Hotel. She also applauded the financial support of dignitaries such as the Honourable Ministers Timothy Harris, Shawn Richards, and Ian Liburd.

Ten Positive Men Awarded for International Men's Day

Positive Male Models was the theme of International Men's Day 2018, celebrated at a ceremony at OTI which saw 10 males being awarded for their contributions to St. Kitts-Nevis society.

Honoured were Messrs. William Hodge for Education; Mitchel Slader for Media, Augustus Shelford for Religion, Tyrone O'Loughlin for Youth Development and Sports, Nigel Williams And Royd Phipps for Creative and Performing Arts, and Dr. Jerome Thomas for

Agriculture.

Special awards were also given to Mr. Michael "Mickey" Weintraub for his humanitarian efforts and Mr. Livingston Huggins for his work with the National Men's Council, while the Prime Minister's award went to Mr. Jefferson Fraites of Molineux for charity to the community.

In reflecting on the theme, Awardee and Featured Speaker at the Event, Mr. William Hodge, reflected on

the contributions made by men in his life, including his father and godfather. He said, *"A positive man is not a man who is polished to perfection...but a man on whose life you can pattern your own life"*.

Gender Officer Mr. Dion Brown noted that the event went well and achieved its aim, which was *"to honour men who have made a significant contribution to their families, communities, and by extension, St.Kitts-Nevis...this would motivate other men to serve in a positive way"*.

Gender Affairs Moves to Tackle Domestic Violence (cont'd)

(cont'd from pg 1)...and Hazel Brandy-Williams of Nevis, United Nations representative, Ms. Alison McClean, UNESCO Secretary General Mr. Antonio Maynard, and consultant for the project Ms. Ingrid Charles-Gumbs, as well as a wide cross-section of stakeholders.

Noting that *gender* is a cross-cutting issue that touches persons in all spheres of lives, Ms. Charles explained that the intention of the launch was to invite stakeholders and interest groups to give input in creating the National Gender Policy. She noted that several groups were present, including young

people, church-based representatives, members of the Disabled Association, and the Health and Legal fraternities, who were all invited in the afternoon session to give input on matters to be considered in the national document.

According to Ms. Charles, the November 29th event is the first of several workshops that will be held with different groups towards crafting the Policy, which is intended to be completed within one year's time.

The Protocol and Policy launches formed part of the international 16-Day Campaign for Gender Violence, which spanned the November 25th, to December 10th period. Other activities towards the Campaign in-

cluded the distribution of brochures and posters, Media 'spots' on radio and television, and a workshop on gender-based violence. Young people were also involved in the movement, presenting two Flash Mobs on the issue in the streets of Basseterre, using dance and dramatic arts.

The Department of Gender Affairs asks that persons affected by domestic violence in St. Kitts note the following resource numbers, which may provide assistance: Department of Gender Affairs- 662-5492, Department of Probation and Child Care Services-465-1311, the National Counselling Centre -465-5000, and the Police Special Victims Unit - 665-3039.

STAFF MOVEMENTS

Appointments

- Ms. Mauricia Pemberton Executive Officer, Administration
- Ms. Shontell Pemberton Community Development Officer, Social Services
- Mr. Haniff Charles Community Development Officer, Social Services

Transfers

- Mr. Keith Warner to Community Development Officer, Social Services

Departures

- Ms. Marcella Simon Director, Probation & Child Services
- Ms. Alicia Collins Community Development Officer, Social Services



Congratulations to Mr. Keith Warner for successfully completing a six-week Programme in *Chronic Disease Self-Management* (Stanford University), organized by the Ministry of Health. Mr. Warner is now qualified to serve as a facilitator in the above-mentioned area, to various community groups!

Condolences to Mr. James ‘Bunny’ Pemberton on the passing of his mother, and Ms. Cassandra Bedford, on the passing of her father



Upcoming Celebrations

- 19 January - Ms. Eldora Carty
- 25 January - Mr. Keith Warner



- 2 February - Ms. Esther Hodge
- 8 February - Ms. Janice Bailey
- 9 February - Ms. Iotha Charles-Weaver
- 12 February - Ms. Alicia Collins
- 20 February -Ms. Merle Woodley
- 21 February - Ms. Francess Nadir
- 23 February—Ms. Shinnel Charles

- 14 March - Ms. Ann Wigley
- 31 March - Major Roxroy Campbell



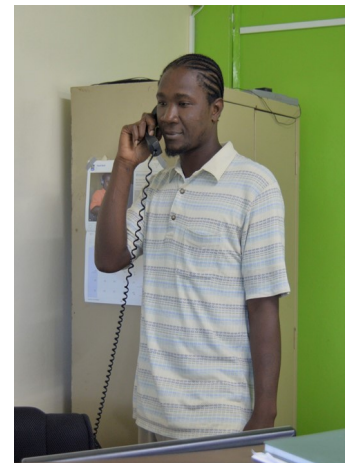
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Regal and radiant: Ms. Warner takes a quick photo break at the International Men's Day Awards



Healthy Minds and Bodies: Mental Health Association participate in Health Walk



Sheldon 'holding down the fort' at Front Reception



Volunteers take a 'walk in their shoes' during Disabled Association's Week of Activities



Seniors laugh till 'belly buss' at Elderly Month Daytime Concert



Families enjoy the festivities at PCPS' Annual Foster Care Party



Who says working with numbers can't be 'colourful'? Our Finance officer livens up the office with this cheery ensemble!



Minister Eugene Hamilton stands with International Men's Day honourees



Welcoming smiles at the Counselling Centre's new offices




Pink for a Cause: Gender Affairs and PCPS staff honour Breast Cancer Month



Local stakeholders participate in Human Rights Workshop, facilitated by *Freevinds* Captain Mr. Ken Weber (pictured right)



**Can you name
YOUR HUMAN RIGHTS?**

1. We are all born free, with EQUAL RIGHTS .	2. These rights belong to EVERYBODY , whatever our differences.	3. We have the right to LIFE , and to live in freedom and safety.	4. Nobody has the right to make us a SLAVE , neither can we do the <i>same to others</i> .	5. <i>Nobody has the right to hurt and torture us.</i>
6. We have rights no matter where we go.	7. We're all equal before the law. The law is the same for everyone. It must treat us all fairly.	8. <i>Human rights are protected by law. We can all ask for the law to help us when not treated fairly.</i>	9. Nobody has the right the send us to jail, detain us, or send us away from our country <i>without a good reason</i> .	10. If we are put on trial it should be made public.
11. We're all INNOCENT till proven guilty.	12. We have the right to <u>privacy</u> . Nobody should harm our good name.	13. We all have the right to go where we want in our own country, and <i>travel as we wish</i> .	14 We have the right to seek a SAFE place to live, even if it's another country.	15. We all have the right to BELONG to a country.
16. Every grown-up has the right to marry and have a family if they want to.	17. Everyone has the RIGHT to own things and share them. Nobody should take our things from us without a good reason.	18. We all have the right to believe in what we want to believe; to have a religion, or to CHANGE IT if we want.	19. We have the right to <u>freedom of expression</u> .	20. We have the right to peaceful assembly and to work together in peace to defend our rights.
21. We have the right to democracy and to take part in or CHOOSE the government of our country.	22. We all have the right to <u>affordable housing, medicine, education, and childcare</u> , and enough money to live on and medical help if we are ill or old.	23. Every grownup has the right to do a job , to earn a fair wage for their work , and to join a trade union.	24. Everybody has the right to REST from work and to relax.	25. We have the right to food and shelter.
26. Everyone has the right to EDUCATION . 	27. <i>Copyright is a special law that protects everyone's artistic creations and writings.</i>	28. There must be proper order so that we can all enjoy rights and freedoms in our own country and all over the world .	29. We have a DU-TY to other people, and should protect their rights and freedoms.	30. NO ONE CAN TAKE AWAY YOUR HUMAN RIGHTS.

The above was adapted from the Simplified Version of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in honour of Human Rights Day, commemorated on December 10th, 2018. (Source: www.youthforhumanrights.com)



CHILD ABUSE



Any intentional harm or mistreatment to a child under 18 years old is considered child abuse. Child abuse takes many forms, which often occur at the same time.

- **Physical abuse.** Physical child abuse occurs when a child is purposely physically injured or put at risk of harm by another person.
- **Sexual abuse.** Sexual child abuse is any sexual activity with a child, such as fondling, oral-genital contact, intercourse, exploitation or exposure to child pornography.
- **Emotional abuse.** Emotional child abuse means injuring a child's self-esteem or emotional well-being. It includes verbal and emotional assault — such as continually belittling or berating a child — as well as isolating, ignoring or rejecting a child.
- **Neglect.** Child neglect is failure to provide adequate food, shelter, affection, supervision, education, or dental or medical care.

In many cases, child abuse is done by someone the child knows and trusts — often a parent or other relative. A child who's being abused may feel guilty, ashamed or confused. He or she may be afraid to tell anyone about the abuse, especially if the abuser is a parent, other relative or family friend. That's why it's vital to watch for RED FLAGS, such as:

WARNING SIGNS

- Withdrawal from friends or usual activities
- ◇ Changes in behavior — such as aggression, acting out
- ◇ Depression, anxiety or unusual fears, low self esteem
- ◇ An apparent lack of supervision
- Frequent absences from school
- ◇ Running away/reluctance to go home.
- ◇ Self-harm or attempts at suicide
- Unexplained injuries, e.g bruises, fractures or burns
- ◇ Injuries that don't match the given explanation
- Inappropriate sexual behaviour/knowledge for age
- Pregnancy or a sexually transmitted infection
- Desperate need for affection
- Decrease in school performance or interest in school
- Poor hygiene; inappropriate clothing for situation
- Taking food or money without permission
- Hiding food for later
- ◇ Lack of necessary medical care/follow-up

If you suspect that a child is being abused or neglected, kindly contact the Probation & Child Protection Services Department at 467-1311

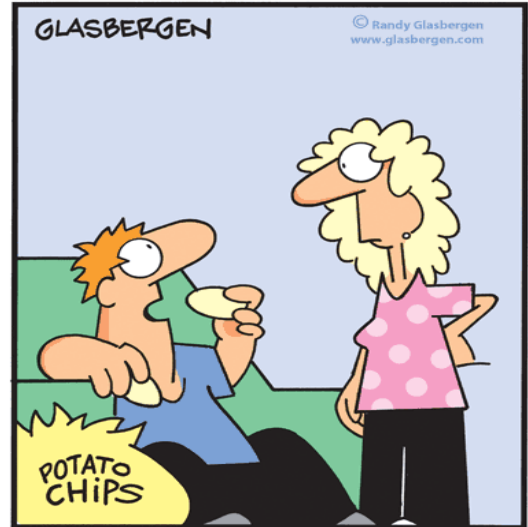




SOCIAL WORK

We're not in it for the income;
We're in it for the outcome.

(Author: Unknown) Contributed by Andrea Douglas



"Pulling open the bag and chewing all the chips burns more calories than leaving the bag on the shelf!"

contributed by J. Woodley

- 1/2 cup melted butter or 1 stick
- 1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 3/4 cup flour
- 1/4 tsp salt

INGREDIENTS



EASY ONE-BOWL FUDGY COCOA BROWNIES

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease an 8x8 square pan or line with foil and set aside.
2. In a medium bowl combine melted butter, sugar, and cocoa powder: stir until fully dissolved.
3. Add eggs one at a time, then vanilla, then stir until well combined.
4. Stir in flour and salt till fully combined. Be careful not to overmix.
5. (optional) Fold in 1 cup of nuts, chocolate chips, raisins, or anything else you desire.
6. Spread in pan and bake for approximately 25 minutes, or until toothpick inserted comes out clean. Be careful not to overbake!
7. Cool completely then cut into 9 large squares or 16 small squares. Enjoy!

Source: <https://gimmedelicious.com/2015/06/21/easy-one-bowl-fudgy-cocoa-brownies/>

contributed by Jeweleen Woodley

LOCAL INSPIRATION

Do you know these 'long-time' sayings?



“Who no wuk a day wuk a night”.

(Who does not perform their duties at the right time, will have to perform it at an inconvenient time)

“All monkey have de same face”

(You are known and judged by those with whom you associate)

“Wa sweet a goat mout sour a ee bam bam”

(There are things we enjoy which can affect us afterwards)

Source: Mr. Creighton Pencheon

contributed by Sheldon Fenton

**life
hacks**

#044

If you accidentally close a tab, ctrl+shift+t reopens it.

@1000LifeHacks
1000LifeHacks.com

My Mother's Wish



Do not ask me to remember

Do not try to make me understand

Let me rest and know you're with me

Kiss my cheeks and hold my hand

I'm sad and sick and lost

**All I know is that I need you to be with me
at all cost**

Do not lose your patience with me

Do not scold or curse me to cry

I can't help the way I'm acting

Can't be different though I try

Just remember that I need you

That the best of me is gone

Please don't fail to stand beside me

Love me till life is gone

By James "Bunny" Pemberton

(Dedicated to his ailing mother, now sadly deceased)

RIDDLE

You are driving in your car at night when magically three doors appear in front of you. A voice from above tells you that behind the first door you will find diamonds. Behind the second door you will find gold and behind the third door you will find money. What door do you open first?

(Source: www.brain teasers.fyi. Answer on back page)



UPCOMING

March 8th - International Women’s Day Activities (Gender Affairs)

The Ministry of Community Development, Gender Affairs and Social Services will develop and implement culturally sensitive customer service initiatives, by using evidence-based data to guide strategic decision- making in order to advocate for human and child rights and integrate gender mainstreaming, family wellness and creative enterprise, to enhance the development of an inclusive society.



CONTACT:

The Ministry of Community Development, Gender Affairs and Social Services

Victoria Road
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St. Kitts

Telephone number: (869) 467-1020/ Fax number: (869) 466-1552

Email: deptsdcga@yahoo.com

Departments

Administration - 467-1020

Social Services & Community Development - 467-1314

Probation & Child Protection Services (PCPS) - 467-1311

Social Protection Implementation Unit (SPIU) - 467-1523

Gender Affairs - 467-1397

Finance - 467-1276

Counselling Centre - 465-5000

New Horizons Rehabilitation Centre - 662-5624

Riddle Answer: Your car door