

Y.W.C.A. Learn-to-Swim Fiona Stevenson Report

Programme Report for 2017

Narrative:

Since 1996, the pool at the Young Women's Christian Association of Belize (Y.W.C.A.) has been and still continues to be the only community pool in the entire country of Belize. With the support of the Fiona Stevenson Foundation funds that began in 2007, we have been able to provide Learn-to-Swim and Lifeguard Programmes for more than 2,256 children from twenty-nine (29) primary schools and one (3) institution (Living Hope, Police youth cadets and Scouts).

In March 2017, the successful programme attracted children and youth from six (6) primary schools, three (3) institutions (Living Hope School, Police Youth Cadets and Scouts), Dorothy Menzies Childcare Centre, Liberty Children's Home, and from low income families. This programme has received much recognition from the various schools that were invited to be a part of the programme, and from the National Sports Council, the media, and the community.

A total of two hundred eighteen students (218) participated in the 8-week Learn-to-Swim Programme. The students were from Central Christian, Living Hope, Stella Maris, Grace Primary, St. John Vianney, Police Youth Cadet, Belize Scouts and the YWCA.

The Fiona Stevenson Fund also funded the training of twenty- six (26) young men and women, who participated in the Lifeguard and Swimming Instructor Course. First Aid and Leadership Skills

training were incorporated in the course. At the end of the training the participants were certified by the Belize Red Cross. During the summer, the fifteen (15) lifeguards/instructors played a key role in assisting the Y.W.C.A. in its Learn-to-Swim Summer Programme, where they taught approximately one hundred and eighty (180) toddlers, children, young adults, and adults how to swim. This opportunity gave the newly-trained lifeguards/instructors a chance to become more confident and assertive as lifeguards and to improve their teaching skills as swimming instructors. The opportunity also provided them with income, which helped them with school-related expenses.

Among the 180 persons who attended the Y.W.C.A.'s 2017 Summer Programme, were forty (40) underprivileged children from various parts of Belize City. These children were given the chance to participate free of charge in the Learn-to-Swim Programme. At the end of the 3-week summer class, many of them learned how to swim, became more confident in the water, and later received certificates at the Goldfish, Snapper, and Intermediate Levels.

In addition to the participation of the forty (40) underprivileged children, twenty-two (22) children from the Liberty Foundation and fifteen (15) from the Dorothy Menzies Childcare Center participated in two (2) sessions each (as proposed) of the Learn-to-Swim Programme, and also had the opportunity for two (2) extra sessions during the 2017 Summer Learn-to-Swim Programme. In actuality, the participants from Dorothy Menzies and Liberty Foundation received four sessions each.

Financial Report:

Activity	Description	Proposed Budget	Actual Expense
1. Swimming lessons for 218 children from ten (6) primary schools & (2) Cadet group	Training: 218 x \$40/person	8,000.00	8,720.00
Transportation for 100 students (to/from)	Transportation: 100 students x 20 trips @ \$2	4,000.00	4,000.00
2.Swim Meet for 200 Primary School Students	Snacks: 200 x \$5/Person Medals and trophies	1,000.00 600.00	0.00 Note: Because of the difficulties with the scheduling of sessions, the Swim Meet did not take place as planned.

3. Swimming lesson for 40 disadvantage children from the community.	Training: 40 x \$20/person	300.00	800.00
4. Swimming lessons for 15 disadvantaged children during the summer from Dorothy Menzies Childcare Center	Training : 15 x \$10 x 2 session	300.00	300.00
5. Two swim days for 22 children from Liberty Foundation Liberty is about 12 miles from Belize City	Training: 22 x \$10 x 2 sessions Transportation: \$60 per trip x 2 trips (to/from)	300.00 120.00	440.00 120.00
6. Training for 26 Lifeguards and Swim Instructors	Training: 26 x \$40/person	600.00	1040.00
Total		BZ \$15,220.00	BZ \$15,420.00

School Statistics:

Name of School *Special Needs School	Number of Lessons	Number of students who attended the Course	Students at the start who feared water and could not swim	Students at the start who did not fear water but could not swim	Students at the start who could swim a little	Number of students who completed the course	Non swimmers who learned to swim	Number of students at the end who can swim
Central Christian	8	17	7	5	5	17	10	15
*Stella Maris	8	14	9	5	0	14	8	8
St. John Vianney	8	27	13	8	6	27	19	25
Grace Primary	8	18	10	5	3	18	9	12
YWCA HELP girls	8	30	10	15	5	30	17	22
Living Hope School	8	15	6	5	4	15	8	12
Police youth Cadets	8	85	34	21	30	85	39	69
Belize Scouts	8	12	6	4	2	12	7	9
Total	64	218	95	68	55	218	117	172