

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

Programme Report for 2019

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 2,787 children from primary schools, high schools and other institutions around Belize City.

On January 23, 2019, the Fiona Stevenson Programme attracted children, youth and single mothers from various primary schools, high schools and other organizations that serve the young and vulnerable in Belize district. This programme has received much recognition from the various schools that were invited to be a part of the programme, from the media, and the community at large.

Since the commencement and the conclusion of the programme at the YWCA a total of four hundred forty-one (441) participated in the 8-week Learn-to-Swim Programme.

The Fiona Stevenson Fund also funded the training of twenty (20) Lifeguard Training Participants and Nine (9) Swimming Instructors Training Participants; they all took part in the vigorous one week training and was deemed successfully at the end of the planned sessions in June of 2019. First Aid and Leadership Skills Training were incorporated in the course as an incentive for development in the newly trained guards and instructors. At the end of the training the participants were certified by the Belize Red Cross and the YWCA Certified Trainers.

During the summer, 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 two hundred thirteen (213) participants which consisted of toddlers, children, young adults, and adults. 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 for the upcoming school year.

Among the two hundred and thirteen (213) persons who attended the Y.W.C.A.'s 2019 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 of completion in levels such as: Goldfish, Snapper, Dolphin, Shark and Intermediate Levels.

In addition to the participation of the forty (40) underprivileged children, twenty-five (25) children from the Liberty Foundation participated in two (2) sessions of the Learn-to-Swim Programme, and Twenty-five (25) from the Dorothy Menzies Childcare Center also had the opportunity to be a part of the two (2) session of the 2019 Summer Learn-to-Swim Programme.

In collaboration with the Youth Apprenticeship Programme the YWCA has recently trained (13) thirteen Single Mothers in regards to Water Safety, this was deemed necessary to decrease the number of casualties in our communities. Hopefully with the knowledge shared they can then disseminate methods, tips and information to their children and other relatives.

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
YWCA HELP girls	8	12	8	2	2	12	12	12
St. Catherine Academy	8	13	10	2	1	13	13	13
Anglican Cathedral College	8	25	15	6	4	25	25	25
Path Light International	8	10	10	0	0	10	10	10
Belize Scout Association	8	18	10	2	6	18	18	18
Coast Guard Cadets	8	150	100	25	25	150	150	150
Summer Programme	8	213	197	10	6	213	213	213
Total	56	441	350	47	44	441	441	441

Course	Group/ Organization	Number of Participants	Date of Training
Water Safety	Youth Apprenticeship Single Mothers Programme	13	January 23, 2019
Lifeguard Training	Open Session- At Risk Youths	20	June 24-28, 2019
Swimming Instructor Training	Open Session- At Risk Youths	9	June 24-28, 2019
(2) Sessions Water Safety & Learn – to- Swim	Dorothy Menzies Child Care Center	25	July 2019
	Liberty Foundation	25	

Picture Report:

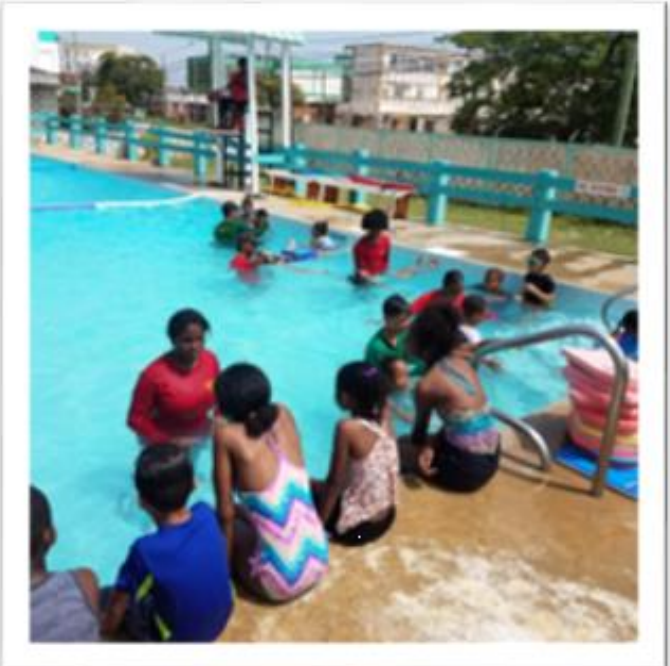
Belize Coast Guard Cadets



Summer Programme 2019



Learn- To- Swim Programme



Lifeguard Training

