Aerial view of Greater August Town and its environs
Achievements at a Glance
Project Achievements 2011-2012

- Established partnership with international institutions and organisations such as University of Connecticut, United States of America and Diaspora Basic School Foundation, United Kingdom
- Established the Fathers Resource Centre in August Town
- Introduced Mentorship Programme for UWI Township Scholarship Recipients
- Introduced Community Corner Lectures
- Hosted 2nd Train-the-Trainer Parenting Workshop for Basic School Administrators and Parents
- Supported 31 Social Work Practicum students in the UWI Township
- Provided eye screening for 250 primary school grades one and six students in collaboration with the Foundation for International Self Help (FISH) Clinic
- Increased public awareness and visibility through the following:
  - Establish of facebook page
  - Publish and circulate quarterly newsletter
  - Develop Mona Social Services and Source brochures
  - Develop complimentary cards
  - Radio Interviews on RJR; News Talk 93 FM; Power 106 FM, Nationwide and HOT 102 FM
- Established UWI Mona Source
- Established UWI Mona Source Management Committee
- Reduced overhead expenses at UWI Mona Source
- Increased employment opportunities at UWI Mona Source and in the Greater August Town
- Refurbished and re-opened the closed Goldsmith Villa Basic School, in collaboration with Heaven of Hope Open Bible Church and Goldsmith Villa Youth Club
- Introduced Inaugural Basic School Football Competition
- Hosted 2nd Basic Schools’ Athletic Championship
- Resuscitated Scout Programme at August Town Primary
- Completed African Gardens Mini-Sports Complex
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Introduction

The aim of the Mona Social Services University Township Project is to foster the integration of inner-city communities surrounding The University of the West Indies. The Barry Chevannes Civic Engagement Initiative (BCCEI), the first project of Mona Social Services has its genesis in Greater August Town.

Since the founding of the University College of the West Indies’s Mona Campus in 1948, both the campus and Greater August Town community have had good relationships, as workers from the community began playing a critical role in the steadily expanding College, while researchers and students from the College found in August Town amenable subjects for medical and social scientific research. This relationship remains so up to present day.

Over the years, individuals from the Campus and students from the Halls of Residence have had personal contacts with August Town which have spanned cricket, football, youth clubs and cultural activities as well as being involved in organized social interventions which has largely addressed remedial education. Additionally, many commuting students have found accommodation in the community.

It is expected that the Mona Social Services: UWI Township Project will, evolve into a model of community development, in which an educational institution by integrating with its local community in the delivery of high quality education and services will help the community to transform itself into a preferred and privileged place that is rich in social capital.

The relationship between the University of the West Indies and the Greater August Town (the communities of August Town, Hermitage, Goldsmith Villa, Angola, Bedward Gardens and African Gardens) has been generally positive with the University providing jobs, medical services and its playing fields and the community providing a ready site for pure and applied research among other things. In addition, individual lecturers and various groups of students have over the years charted their own relationship with the community. However, this has mainly evolved through implied understanding and voluntarism, rather than by formal agreement. After some sixty years, the University has now made the development of relations with Greater August Town a matter of policy.

The UWI Township Project began in 2006 and has undergone several phases.
The Mona Social Services

The Barry Chevannes Civic Engagement Initiative

The Mona Social Services (MSS) Company which was created with participation by The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, the private sector, community organizations and Local Government to strengthen the social fabric and economic base of the low-income underserved communities in the Mona Valley, has been operating since August 1, 2011, under the directorship of Dr. Olivene Burke.

The first initiative under the Mona Social Services Company is the Barry Chevannes Civic Engagement Initiative: A Greater August Town and the University of the West Indies Partnership (formerly University Township). This initiative fosters the integration of the community of Greater August Town and the Mona Campus of the University of the West Indies by embracing in a singular partnership that raises and transforms both the quality of the University’s outreach and the capability of August Town to turn aspirations into reality.

The goal is to achieve positive transformation and sustainable relationships between the University and the Greater August Town Community through focusing on the following objectives:

1. Improving education as well as ensuring skills training and to offer tertiary scholarship to qualified students.

2. Generating entrepreneurial projects and increasing housing stock for student rental and widen work opportunities.

3. Strengthening Community and University safety through, crime and violence reduction.

4. Addressing the environmental and health problems that affect Greater August Town residents, University students and staff.

5. Developing the sport talent and cultural resources of the Communities.

6. Carefully organizing and implementing legal, financial and property structures that will support and carry forward objectives on the ground.

7. Increasing awareness and visibility of the Mona Social Services Company.

During the period of August 2011 and January 2012, the Mona Social Services: Barry Chevannes Civic Engagement Initiative University Township has undertaken a number of projects and collaborated with departments at UWI in preparing funding proposals and cemented partnership arrangements with various stakeholders in an effort to achieving Mona Social Services’ objectives.
The current report provides an overview of the work of the Mona Social Services Company over one year from August 2011 to July 2012. A number of projects and activities were initiated and implemented during the period.

The report is divided into six sub-categories that cover the goals, objectives and functions of the Mona Social Service as outlined in the 2011-2013 Workplan. Also included are highlights of the achievements for the period 2008-2011.
Improve the Educational Environment

*Improve early childhood, primary, secondary and tertiary level education, ensure skills training and offer tertiary scholarship to qualified students.*
In September 2011, the Mona Social Services (MSS) UWI Township Project introduced Guyanese Scout Leader and Paramedic Certified student, Mr Patrick Fung to the August Town Primary School and the Scout Association of Jamaica.

Mr Fung became aware of the Mona Social Services Township Project and approached the office. After being apprised of the work of the Township Project, he offered his services in his area of expertise which is Scout Leadership. He was introduced to the Principal of August Town Primary, Mr Morton Wilson as well as the school’s Scout Club Coordinator, Mr Mark Miller and a Cub Scout programme began.

Mr. Fung engaged young boys between the ages of 6 and 9 from September to December 2011. His training programme included the importance of the scouts, survival techniques and the importance of cooperation, discipline and team work.

He also exposed the boys to aspects of his Guyanese culture and showed them pictures of scouting expeditions in which his team participated internationally and locally. The boys said that they were intrigued at the possibilities and opportunities that were available to them through scouting.

The school administration and Scout Coordinators revealed that among the 40 boys who now enthusiastically looked forward to their club time there was improved discipline since Mr Fung’s intervention.

Mr. Patrick Fung, Scout Leader, demonstrating to students how to tie a knot.
At the end of the four months programme the school hosted an appreciation and farewell function at the school. The school community including the principal Mr Morton Wilson and Scout Coordinators, Mr Mark Miller and Miss Sasha Robinson expressed their heartfelt gratitude on behalf of the 40 boys that were impacted greatly by both the Mona Social Services and Mr Fung’s involvement. Mr Miller who founded the Cub Scout Club at the school noted that the scout programme started as an intervention strategy to stem a growing threat of gang formation among boys at the school and to improve discipline. He opined that the Club had realized its greatest advancement as a result of Mr Fung’s involvement.

Dr Olivene Burke, Executive Director of Mona Social Services expressed gratitude to the August Town Primary School for allowing the involvement of the UWI Township Project in the lives of the boys through the collaboration with Mr Fung. She also recognized the contribution of Mr Michael-Edward James, MSS team member, for the support he gave to the visiting Scout Leader during the training period.
Students of August Town and Hope Valley Experimental Primary Schools are given a presentation on different types and functions of Marine machinery.

The Mona Social Services: UWI Township in partnership with the Centre for Tourism and Policy Research, The University of the West Indies (UWI), treated 30 students of Grades five and six from the August Town and Hope Valley Experimental Primary Schools to an educational tour of the Caribbean Maritime Institute. The students were accompanied by four teachers: Mr Dwight Peart, Ms Polly Jean Love, Mrs Natalie Grant and Ms Nadine Nomdarkan from the respective schools.

The objectives of the tour were twofold:

i. to facilitate and encourage the integration of children from different parts of the community;
ii. to expose the students to the various career opportunities available in the maritime profession.
With much anticipation and excitement, the students boarded the buses that were provided by the Office of Student Services and Development and the Mona School of Business. The tour guides who coordinated the activities comprised four research students from the Centre for Tourism and Policy Research: Miss Mellissa Tulloch, Miss Semone Smikle, Mr Matthew Mitchell and Mr Elroy Galbraith.
The first activity for the day was an exhibition of the cadet corps on parade. Students gazed in amazement as many were seeing this kind of exposition for the first time. In fact they were exposed to many firsts. More than 50% of the students were experiencing that side of the world for the first time. The students and teachers were making their first trip to the Caribbean Maritime Institute.

The parade followed presentations on marine life, the impact of littering on marine life and employment opportunities available in the maritime industry.

A tour of the institution was next and persons got a firsthand experience of the machines, tools and equipment used in the maritime industry. The highlight of the day included the tour of the Institutes vessel simulator. Students got the opportunity to manoeuvre steering the shipping vessels around the Kingston Harbour and were provided with vivid experiences at sea. They saw that garbage thrown on the streets of Kingston ends up polluting and damaging the waterfront and contributes to environmental issues.
The children’s response was that they did not realize that littering could cause so much damage and promised to share the knowledge with their classmates, parents and neighbours. Other places of interest that had the students in awe were renewable energy projects undertaken by the Institute, and airlift demonstrations.

The importance of the tour to the Mona Social Services is the increased integration among the children as they shared experiences. No longer were they from two separate schools suspicious of each other. There was heightened interest for the students when it was revealed that one of the Maritime Engineering students, Mr Allister Dwyer, is a past student of the Hope Valley Experimental Infant and Primary School. Four of the boys from Hope Valley immediately expressed their desire to follow in Mr Dwyer’s footsteps.

The Centre for Tourism and Policy Research tour guides completed an intriguing packaging by encouraging the students to become ambassadors for their community. In this regard they would return and share their experience with their classmates as well as sensitize the community to the possibility of Greater August Town (GAT) as a tourist destination as there were many cultural areas for tourist attraction in the community.

Thirty students, four teachers and three officers from Mona Social Services Township were empowered to make tour-guiding a possibility in the Greater August Town Community. The group was accompanied by Mona Social Services: UWI Township representatives: Dr Olivene Burke, Mr Michael-Edward James and Mr Kenneth Wilson; Centre for Tourism and Policy Research representatives: Professor Ian Boxill, Miss Mellissa Tulloch, Miss Semone Smikle, Mr Matthew Mitchell and Mr Elroy Galbraith as well as a representative from the Ministry of Youth, Ms Nuncia Meghoo.
April 5, 2012 saw parents and guardians of 43 four and five year old students of the Goldsmith Villa Basic School in a crisis situation. The school was closed after four years of operation by sponsors, KAIROS Network. Reports are that the project period ended. Goldsmith Villa Basic operated on a model that provided early childhood education and refreshments to the students of the community free of cost. Teachers and staff were volunteers as well. When the sponsor withdrew its support, everything and everyone went under.

The Mona Social Services was approached by Mr David Henry, President of the Community Development Council and representatives of the Goldsmith Villa Youth Club to intervene, along with Reverend Ezekiel Curtis of the Heaven of Hope Open Bible Church. Emergency meetings were held in the community and an interim steering committee formed. The school was saved as concerned residents were energized to make a difference in their community. Two teachers agreed to volunteer their services, one parent who previously assisted the school, offered to prepare meals, while others volunteered to provide sanitation items and perform janitorial services for the rest of the school year. Technical advice and resources were provided by Mona Social Services while food items for lunch were provided by the Heaven of Hope Open Bible Church.
School was reopened on April 23, 2012 without chalkboards and safety equipment but residents willingly committed time and resources to provide staff and furniture in the shortest time. Thirty of the 45 students reported for classes under the new acting Principal (also a volunteer) Mrs. Lorna Robinson.

On Labour Day, May 23, 2012, the community Youth Club coordinated a renovation project and over 60 residents worked at the school. This initiative was supported with materials provided by the Mona Social Services, Social Development Commission, Millen Hardware, the Heaven of Hope Open Bible Church, the Greater August Town Women’s Action Group and Gold Smith Villa residents.

Activities included painting inside and outside the classrooms as well as the parameter walls, re-roofing, re-meshing of the canteen area and installation of fixtures. There was also chopping, cutting and removal of foliage and garbage from the school grounds.

A welcomed addition that enhanced the learning environment was the painting of murals of the Jamaican emblems on the walls of the school, as well as numbers and letters of the alphabet. The activity proves that community spirit and volunteerism are alive and well. Eleven of the students graduated on July 5, 2012 and will continue their primary education at the two primary schools in the community.
Mrs Linnybeth Henry, a resident of Hermitage and Ms. Isolyn Adamson from August Town who were committed to the improvement of the standards of service at the community Health Clinic, volunteered to help to restore the services in June 2011. Since they were placed at the Clinic, residents of Greater August Town (GAT) expressed their satisfaction in the improvement of the services. Arising from her dedication to service, Mrs Linnybeth Henry received a scholarship to pursue certification in the 20th Regional Course on Community Care of the Elderly in the Caribbean. Mrs. Henry and another resident, Mrs Vivette McLaggon-Reid who also volunteered her services to a workshop conducted by the Social Work Practicum students, completed the course and graduated with nine other women from Jamaica and Antigua on June 13, 2012. The graduates are now certified to care for the elderly in any island in the region.

Through her achievement Mrs Henry has promoted the benefits of volunteerism. She continues to serve in other group activities in her community. She is involved in the GAT Women’s Action Group, assisted in marshalling and keeping score at the UWI Township 20/20 Cricket competition and has mobilized support for UWI Township community meetings and lectures.
UWI Township Challenge Scholars’ Mentorship Programme

The Challenge Scholarship Programme was established in September 2008 by Professor Gordon Shirley, Pro Vice Chancellor and Principal of The University of the West Indies, Mona. The Challenge Scholarship is an undergraduate award granted to any resident of the Greater August Town Community who matriculates to the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus to read for a Bachelor’s degree. Full tuition is provided for the first semester of the first year. To retain the full scholarship the student is challenged to maintain a B+ average or a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher. A cumulative GPA of 3.0-3.2 or B– average qualifies for one-half of the scholarship. The scholarships are offered on a semester by semester basis and are renewable subject to the eligibility requirements for a maximum of three consecutive years.

Over a four-year period, 23 Mona Social Services: University Township Challenge Scholarships were awarded to students from the Greater August Town community. In September 2011, five students were added to the previous 14. Unfortunately only three of the four students maintained the scholarship from the former years.

In an effort to ensure that the recipients are kept on the scholarship programme the Mona Social Services: UWI Township initiated a Mentorship programme in collaboration with the UWI’s Office of Student Services Development for the Challenge Scholarship students. The effectiveness of the programme is being lauded by the students who were assigned mentors. The scholars have all commended the merits of having a mentor.
Two of the first recipients of the UWI Township Challenge Scholarship graduated in November 2012. One of the students, Ms Shenhaye Ferguson, a History major in the Faculty of Humanities and Education has completed her undergraduate programme with First Class Honours. Ms. Ferguson has since been accepted to the Faculty of Law where she will continue her studies to achieve her goal of becoming a lawyer. She is actively involved in capacity building and community development, and has been giving of her time by preparing students to sit the Caribbean Secondary Examination Council examinations while assisting in the UWI Mona Source.

Ms Annarhesia Farquharson, another Challenge Scholarship recipient who has also majored in History will be graduating in November with an Upper Second Class Honours Degree. With these achievements the Mona Social Services: UWI Township is fulfilling its objective to add intellectual capital and enhance capacity building in the Greater August Town Community.

The Mona Social Services continues to monitor the progress of the recipients especially the two males and one female Challenge Scholarship recipients from the 2011-2012 academic year. These young people achieved GPA of above 3.3 during their first year at UWI. Mr Lamar McCarthy is in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences majoring in Actuarial Science and Mathematics. Mr Adriel James is in the Faculty of Humanities and Education, majoring in Computer Science while Ms Jennese Palmer is in the Faculty of Humanities, CARIMAC.

This is the first time since the inception of the scholarship that 60% of the students were able to achieve such high grades in their first year. It is especially pleasing to know that two of them are males who can be role models for other male scholarship recipients as well as young boys in their community.
A Student Volunteer Programme initiated by the Mona Social Services has seen the UWI Township Challenge Scholarship recipients providing services at the Open Bible Outreach Centre, Escarpment Road Basic School Homework programme and The UWI Mona Source Homework Programme.

The Source Homework Programme is being managed by Social Work students and caters to students attending primary and high schools. Several University students who reside on Irvine Hall are also included in the programme.

Ms Shenhaye Fergueson, UWI Challenge Scholarship recipient 2009 assisting a student at the UWI Mona Source Homework Centre.
Improving Parenting Skills through Community Workshop
Train-the-Trainer Workshop for Basic School Administrators and Parents

The second Train-the-Trainer Workshop was held on April 26, 2012, at the Mona School of Business, UWI. This activity was a collaboration of The Mona Social Services: UWI Township, School of Education, UWI and the Greater August Town Basic Schools Principals’ Association. Parents and administrative staff from the nine basic schools within the Association participated in the one day workshop chaired by Dr. Paulette Feraria, Associate Dean of the School of Education. This year the Mona Social Services extended its reach to encompass schools outside of the Greater August Town but within the parameter of the UWI campus.

For the first time Shady Grove Basic School which operates from 217h Old Hope Road participated in the workshop. The objective of the workshop was to train parents on how to become better parents and be equipped with the necessary skills to train other parents and caregivers. Of the 21 participants 71% were females and 29% were males.

Facilitators pose with participants as they proudly display their certificates.
The presenters highlighted various topics which are important in parenting. In the presentations on Child Abuse and Safety in the Home, the presenter enlightened the participants about signs of abuse and the dangers of storing chemicals in beverage bottles which are in reach of children. The presentation on Conflict Management and Resolution provided valuable information on causes and signs of conflict and techniques that can be used to manage conflict and resolve disputes. The third presenters looked at Child Development and Nutrition and demonstrated the correct dietary requirements needed for young children to enable full engagement in their learning activities. The final presentation was on The Impact of Fatherhood on Child Development from the experience of the presenter as a father.
During a debriefing session the participants revealed that they had learnt many new lessons that could impact their parenting experience. They were especially satisfied with the opening session where each parent was encouraged to share their experiences. During this segment parents became emotional as they revealed long held secrets. For more than 60% it was the first time that they had a chance to speak openly about their experiences and thus released years of bottled-up emotions.

The seminar facilitated the integration of parents from different districts in the community. Due to historical political segmentation many of these parents would not have had a chance to meet and share experiences as they feared moving freely outside of their areas. The integration aided in changing the view of the parents. This can be passed on to the children through socialization.

Presenters included Dr Paulette Feraria, Associate Dean, School of Education, UWI, Dr Olivene Burke, Executive Director, Mona Social Services: UWI Township Project, Ms Yvonne Turner, President, Greater August Town Principals’ Association and Principal, Mona Common Basic School who was assisted by Ms Nikeisha Small, a parent of the School who participated in the first workshop held in 2011, Mr Leroy Stamp, Community Peace Builder and Mrs Marvalyn Campbell, Human Resource Officer, Mona School of Business.

Videography was provided by Mr Kade Feraria, Social Work Diploma student on Practicum assigned to the Mona Social Services.
Parents Against Violence Workshop

A partnership arrangement between the Mona Social Services, the Greater August Town Parents’ Association and the Citizens Safety and Justice Programme (CSJP) resulted in a 5-week workshop mid-March to mid-April 2012 on Parents Against Domestic Violence. The objective of the workshop was to train parents within the Greater August Town community on methods to reduce domestic violence which has plagued the community and been identified as a key component to community violence. Fifty-eight participants from the districts attended with the aim to take what they have learned and enlighten other members in their communities. Of the number 30% were males. The age range of the parents was 19-60.

Participants actively participated in training activities conducted by representatives from the Community Safety and Justice Programme, Social Development Commission, Community Safety and Security arm of the Jamaica Constabulary Force, Centre for Investigation of Sexual Offences and Child Abuse, the Bureau of Women Affairs, Mona Social Services Department of Community Health and Psychiatry.

Participants are focused and deeply involved in the presentations.
Presenters included Mrs Lola Graham-Richards, Department of Community Health and Psychiatry, Constable Jesimie Foster, Greater August Town Community Safety & Security Officer (JCF), Ms Terry Ranglin, Trainer, Dispute Resolution Foundation, Mrs Marvalyn Campbell, Human Resource Officer, Mona School of Business, Sergeant Winifred Moore, CISOCA, Ms Tara-Sue Morgan, Bureau of Women Affairs, Ms Deborah Fletcher, Community Development Officer, SDC and Dr Olivene Burke, Executive Director, Mona Social Services: UWI Township.

Presentations and activities on Sexual Abuse, Conflict Management, Anger Management, Conflict Resolution and Domestic Violence were highlighted during the workshop sessions.

Survey results showed that the participants found the workshop informative and parents were able to implement some of the lessons learned in their own situation. Participants were especially impressed with Sergeant Moore’s presentation and activities on Sexual Abuse and Ms Fletcher’s presentation on Drug Abuse. They simulated cases of conflict resolution emerging out of real life experiences they had. Participants requested additional workshops to continue the discourse on these topics.

The workshop aided the Mona Social Services to encourage integration among persons from different districts in Greater August Town. Participants expressed that the workshop provided the opportunity to establish amicable relationships with persons they viewed as threats. They began to realize through group activities that they shared similar experiences and goals. One participant mentioned that through the workshop she has established friendships that she will cherish. At the end of each workshop session participants had lunch together and debriefed. They also had a “pon-di-corner” presentation in each of the five areas in GAT at the end of each week.

The workshop also played a significant role in changing the worldview of the residents in the community. The Workshop was held at the Mona School of Business, Executive Lecture Theatre.

Two young men simulate a real life “pon-di-corner” scenario.
Making Use of Sport, Talent and Cultural Resources

Developing the sport talent and cultural resources of the Greater August Town Community.
In March 2012 the Mona Social Services: UWI Township launched the first UWI Township Greater August Town Basic Schools’ Football Competition. Over 60 residents and 25 UWI staff attended the opening ceremony where the nine basic schools: Mona Common, Hermitage, Goldsmith Villa, Church of Christ, August Town Seventh Day Adventist, Covenant, Shalom Pre-school, Escarpment Road and Christ the King Basic teams paraded in front of banners bearing their names.

The opening game was a dramatic event which saw favourites of the competition Mona Common Basic School executing an inspiring 13-0 victory over August Town Seventh Day Adventist. The Mona Common team impressed onlookers with their professional pre-game stretching, technical ability and defensive positioning. The turn of events led to the grand finale on April 27, 2012.

Mona Common was crowned champion after claiming victory over Shalom Pre School with a score of 6-0.
The event was declared a success by the Principals of the Basic Schools. Ms Yvonne Turner, Principal, Mona Common Basic, revealed that the competition impacted her students greatly as it provided them with the opportunity to display unearthed talents. She commented that one of the star players from her school’s team was observed by a scout during the competition and was later invited to the Priory Football Team.

During his trial he impressed many onlookers and an admirer committed to sponsor his membership to the team based on the skills he displayed on the field. Ms Turner also remarked that four other team members were invited to trials for the Real Mona under-10 football team.

Principals have commented that the competition has led to increased awareness of nutrition for the students who are now taking their health more seriously. They have desisted from consuming sodas and are now drinking more water. Ms Turner remarked that the transformation was so great that her school was able to implement a “water day” where all students would bring water to school instead of other beverages, without any protest. Students and parents have also begun to associate good diets with increased energy for sporting activities.
Mrs Catchetia Hudson, Principal, Hermitage Basic pointed out that the younger children are anxiously awaiting the next season when they would have the opportunity to participate.

Mrs Claudette Thomas, Principal, Covenant Basic stated that her parents revealed that they noticed positive changes in their children. She remarked that one of the boys’ parents noticed that after participating in the competition her child began to freely share his possessions. Another set of parents revealed that their children who were once shy have become more open and expressive. Others mentioned that their children started to take interest in their diet and began to eat more regularly. This shows that the competition has played a significant role in key areas such as health awareness, relationships, integration, family and human development as well as initiating the first basic school football competition in eastern St Andrew. Head Coach and Community Liaison Officer, Mr Kenneth Wilson, is commended for his unwavering interest in sports in general and the Basic Schools Football Competition in particular.
The Second Basic Schools’ Athletic Championship was held at the UWI Bowl on May 22, 2012. Over 400 residents of The Greater August Town (GAT) and Mona Communities, along with UWI faculty, students and volunteers witnessed an impressive display of athletic prowess from nine basic schools from GAT and Mona Common.

The children competed in a series of races that included Potato, Sack, Mathematics and Relays. There were also Invitational events in which junior athletes from Primary schools in GAT and the vicinity of the UWI campus competed for “bragging rights”. The defending champions Mona Common Basic School received first place honours, Christ the King placed second and Escarpment Road Basic placed third. August Town Primary were champions of the Invitational Relays for the second year.
Representative from Jamaica National Foundations provided assistance at the Championship.

Children participating in the clothes peg race.
Invitational Relay teams receive medals from Dr Olivene Burke. Looking on is Mr Andre Hylton, MP, Eastern St Andrew.

Students of Covenant Basic School waiting before the start of a race.

Students of Hermitage Basic School get organised by their teacher and a race official.

Michael-Edward James presented medals to winning teams.
UWI Township 20/20 Cricket Launched

In 2011 the Mona Social Services: UWI Township Project launched the UWI Township Greater August Town 20/20 Cricket Competition. Ten teams participated.

- African Gardens
- August Town Police
- Star Vikings
- Haven of Hope Open Bible Church
- Bryce Hill
- Bedward Gardens
- Griz Close
- Duce Strikers
- Hermitage
- Goldsmith Villa

The competition was integral in bringing the community together and attracted attention from both unattached and at-risk residents and outsiders. They participated as members of their area team. Mr Kenneth Wilson, Community Liaison Officer said that the rivalry created camaraderie and integration among residents and has assisted in violence reduction and prevention.

One former gang member coined the slogan “Put down the rifle and the glock and take up the cricket bat.” This reverberated through the stands as spectators watched the matches.

During breaks members of the community were interviewed over the PA System allowing them to share their experiences and ideas for the community. This gave them a sense of empowerment. The competition drew the attention of Jamaica’s national athletes Yohan Blake and Daniel Bailey who were so intrigued that they requested to be a part of the competition. Both athletes were honorary members of participating teams. The Police also participated in the event and this facilitated the improvement of relationships between the officers and young males in the community.

Each weekend residents headed to the UWI Bowl to participate and watch the matches. The integration has been so great that the community has approached the Social Development Commission to start the process of establishing an official GAT Cricket team comprising members of the different districts in the community. The team successfully completed their registration for the SDC’s 20/20 Cricket competition and in June played their first match against Papine at the Papine High School. Efforts are now being made to establish an official GAT cricket competition.
The UWI Township Netball competition was launched in September 2011. Six teams are in the competition. The team is representative of a wide cross-section of the community. The competition had not been held for over five years due to gang violence. This season’s games were affected by logistic and scheduling issues. However the competition resumed in September 2012 at the UWI Bowl.

The Mona Social Services UWI Township team understands that it is important to engage both males and females through sports for self development, empowerment and integration of residents of the Greater August Town community.

Although in the early stages, the competition has attracted the attention of Jamaica national athlete Mr Yohan Blake who sponsored sports kits and equipment.

The August Town Police Station is also participating and this has made a significant impact on improving the relationship between the residents and the police.

UWI Township Netball Competition 2012 Teams

- African Gardens
- Bedward Gardens
- August Town Police Youth Club
- Bryce Hill
- Hermitage
- New Testament Church of God
The August Town Corner League Football competition came to a dramatic conclusion with an entertaining final match between the Bryce Hill team and Bedward Gardens (popularly known as River) at the UWI Bowl. The competition which lasted for 6 months saw other teams from African Gardens, Hermitage and community groups such as the August Town Police Youth Club and KAIROS Network compete for the coveted championship title.

Over 150 residents came out for the final late evening match to witness Bryce Hill achieve a brilliant victory despite conceding the first goal. One spectator expressed that it was a joy to know that the community has moved to a point where persons were not afraid to attend sporting events held outside their communities at night. The finalists were awarded cash incentives.
Crime and Violence Prevention Initiatives

Strengthen the Greater August Town Community and The University safety through crime and violence reduction initiatives.
Stakeholders Peace Management Collaboration

When the community of Greater August Town experienced its first murder for the calendar year on January 6, 2011, The Mona Social Services Team in an effort to uphold the five-year Peace Agreement that was signed in 2008 and witnessed by prominent persons including Professor Gordon Shirley, UWI Principal met with key stakeholders within the community to devise strategies to stem outbursts of violence. Mediation sessions and meetings with the parties involved are integral as the stakeholders all work to hammer out a solution to crime and violence.

The Mona Social Services: UWI Township and community stakeholders participate in Peace Management Meetings every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. in Greater August Town. The main objective of the meeting is to facilitate a forum where committee members, UWI Township representatives, members of the business community, the Police, political representatives the Church and the Ministers’ Fraternal develop violence prevention strategies. The committee members provide the Police with on-the-ground developments in their areas and the Police share brief summaries of their methods of operation. These meetings have strengthened the collaboration of various stakeholders of peace and mobilized better responses from the police.

In this June 24, 2008 photograph, Professor Barry Chevannes, UWI Township Director (left) and Mr Horace Levy of the Peace Management Initiative participate in a peace treaty among rival gangsters in the Greater August Town community.

Residents at the Greater August Town peace signing at the UWI Bowl, Mona on Tuesday, June 24, 2008. Published: The Gleaner, Monday | June 27, 2011

Published : The Gleaner, Sunday | July 8, 2012
The Greater August Town Safe Community Competition was launched at the Escarpment Road, Church of God on September 1, 2011. The districts in Greater August Town (August Town Proper, Hermitage, Goldsmith Villa, African Gardens and Bedward Gardens) compete with the goal of becoming the safest community in the area. Each community is judged by a criteria conceptualized and developed by the Violence Prevention Alliance (VPA) in collaboration with the late Professor Emeritus the Honourable Barry Chevannes.

Members of the community were appointed to the management committee which is responsible for the coordination of the competition. Weekly meetings are held on Thursdays. The competition is scheduled to continue until August 31, 2012.

It was reported that Inspector Keith Steele, Head of August Town Police Force, provided statistical data which indicated that the community experienced one of its best periods for over 25 years. Four murders were committed for the 2011 calendar year. This, he indicated was an improvement over previous years when the community experienced over 10 murders annually.

The Safe Community Competition seemed to have been gaining momentum as the number of murders has been reduced in the GAT. It has been observed that in former years, for the period September to December the community customarily experienced its most violent periods. In 2011, the community experienced two murders.

The competition is being used as one of the crime reduction initiatives in the Greater August Town. The Safe Community Competition team also focused on preventing politically related violence in the community during the month of December when elections were scheduled. Meetings were held with key stakeholders and strategies were employed that led to no significant incident occurring during the period.
Race for Peace Lap-a-Thon and Information Fair

The Mona Social Services UWI Township along with residents of the Greater August Town community participated in the Violence Prevention Alliance Race for Peace Lap-a-thon and Information Fair. The Township team and 40 residents of Greater August Town were represented during the event. The Township erected an information booth with posters and other visuals of the activities and achievements of the UWI Township. Brochures, flyers and pamphlets were used to provide information on the Township and its affiliates in the community including Fathers’ Inc, The UWI Mona Source and community groups such as the Community Development Council, Women’s Action Group and the Home Owners’ Association.

Representatives from each affiliate were present at the booth distributing brochures and answering relevant questions on their group’s activities. Some members participated in the Peace Lap-a-thon and were awarded Certificates of Participation. The event provided an opportunity for the UWI Township team and its community partners to enlighten other groups about their objectives and to highlight their achievements. Groups included media entities, the general public and international organizations such as the United Nations.
In observance of International Peace Day, the Mona Social Services UWI Township collaborated with Hope Valley Experimental Primary and Infant School and August Town Primary School which gathered their Principals and teachers to hold a prayer meeting at the Bryce Hill Square, Greater August Town (GAT).

The event gave the children of the community an opportunity to voice their opinion on the impact of violence on their lives. Some held placards expressing their distress during violent outbreaks. There were performances from students of both primary and the basic schools.
Over 400 hundred residents gathered and sang to the choruses of peace. There were representatives of the UWI University Township Project as well as lecturers and students from the UWI Social Work Unit. The gathering was presented with inspiring messages from Dr Olivene Burke, who spoke about the importance of integration and peace in the community. Ms Sharon Williams, Principal, Hope Valley Experimental and Mr Morton Wilson, Principal, August Town Primary also gave their advice on the benefits of peace while Reverend Morris, of the Escarpment Road Church of God led the prayer session and added his words on peace in transforming a community.

Ms Wendy McLean (glasses), Lecturer and Social Worker with Social Work students engaged in Peace Day activity.
The Mona Social Services University Township Project in collaboration with the Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts, UWI and residents of the Greater August Town created decorations for the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony which was held in commemoration of the first anniversary of the passing of the late Professor Emeritus the Honourable Barry Chevannes.

Over 35 children from the basic schools and primary schools in the community as well as representatives from the August Town Netball League, the Women’s Action Group and Fathers’ Inc., were guided by the expertise of Ms Nadia Roxburgh and her team in creating Christmas decorations from recycled items. Ms Roxburgh is the Technical Director of the Philip Sherlock Centre, UWI.

Designs were made from cardboard boxes, plastic bottles and juice boxes. The recycled items were spray painted or brush painted to create lanterns, ornaments and make-shift gift items for the Christmas tree.

All participants of the project were seemingly excited and spoke highly of the newly learnt craft. This project facilitated the integration of persons from different districts in the August Town and the University and opened the door for future collaborations.
The residents of the Greater August Town which has been segregated in the past due to political and gang violence demonstrated that they can work together under one roof in creative unison. The participants shared the sense of pride experienced by knowing that their creations were presented and praised by persons of influence from outside the community.

The Mona Social Services University Project continues its effort to bring together children and adults from the five districts in the community.
The first anniversary of the passing of the late Professor Barry Chevannes was marked with a Christmas Chorale/Tree Lighting and Treat event held in the Bryce Hill Plaza on December 15, 2011. Residents including children of all ages came out to celebrate and participate in the proceedings. They also enjoyed treats contributed by UWI faculty members, Fathers Inc., Mona School of Business and WISYNCO.

The event was chaired by Dr Herbert Gayle, Director, Fathers Inc. Among the persons on the programme were Professor Gordon Shirley, Principal, UWI, Mona; Dr Paulette Feraria, Lecturer, School of Education, UWI; Mr David Henry, President, Community Development Council and Dr Olivene Burke, Director, Mona Social Services.

The constituency candidates representing the two major political parties - Dr. Saffire Longmore and Mr. Andre Hylton - were also in attendance.

The event allowed the UWI Township Project to continue in its violence prevention and reduction agenda measures by engaging political candidates from each party in the general elections. The candidates were able to interact with each other in a friendly and amicable way and provided the opportunity to implore their supporters to be courteous and acceptable to those who did not share the same political views.
Dr Herbert Gayle (third left) is joined on the podium by Professor Gordon Shirley (left) Ms Amba Chevannes and Mrs Pauletta Chevannes (right).

Dr Olivene Burke, (second left) welcomes guests attending the ceremony.

A group of children in performance.

Carollers in performance
Professor Gordon Shirley and Mrs Pauletta Chevannes prepare to switch on the Christmas tree lights.

The Greater August Town community Christmas tree is lit in Bryce Hill Plaza.
In June 2012, the Mona Social Services: UWI Township conducted a series of lectures within the Greater August Town areas focusing on “The Impact of Crime and Violence on Community Development.” The lectures were held on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. They were conducted by Mr Horace Levy, Peace Management Initiative Representative and retired UWI Lecturer; Dr Herbert Gayle, UWI Lecturer and Anthropologist specializing in violence, and Mr Courtney Brown, Director, Community Security and Justice Programme, Ministry of National Security and Detective Sergeant Gordon, Jamaica Constabulary Force.

Each topic was well received by the audience and passersby who were able to grasp a better understanding of the causes of violence in their community. The technical terminologies were simplified so that the audience could clearly understand the presentations.

The lectures were used as an opportunity to heighten the community’s awareness of crime and violence and the devastating impact on the community. Dr Olivene Burke also used the forum to highlight one of the objectives of the UWI Township which is crime and violence reduction and prevention and the role of the community in achieving this objective.

Commendations were extended to Goldsmith Villa and Hermitage residents who were lauded for maintaining peace in their areas.

The lectures are being transcribed and formatted into a booklet to be distributed in the community and for use in future workshops and meetings.
Entrepreneurship, Business Development and Employment

Generate entrepreneurial projects and increase housing stock for student rental.
The UWI Mona Source

The UWI Mona Source became the new operators of the JN Source a Community Resource Centre in the Greater August Town in June, 2011.

The UWI Mona Source which is opened for business Monday- Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. is a modern business facility that houses a wireless internet cafe, an audio visual room for training and meetings and a community business office.

The over 14,000 residents of the Greater August Town can access the internet, printing and photocopying services as well as rental of the conference room at economically reduced rates. Other services include courier, events planning and coordination, training seminars, business development seminars and employment placement. The services are provided in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

In addition to the services the UWI Mona Source has provided employment to bona fide residents of the Greater August Town since the Mona Social Services took over its operations. Two of the employees were UWI Township Challenge Scholarship students who were provided with full time employment during the summer of 2011.

In July 2008 the then JN Source partnered with The University of the West Indies Township Programme to facilitate employment readiness and job placement. Over 30 residents were placed in jobs in the Kingston Metropolitan Region.

The Source was officially handed over to the Mona Social Services: University Township by Mr Earl Jarrett, General Manager of the Jamaica National Building Society at a rebranding and handing over ceremony held on August 9, 2011 at the Bryce Hill Plaza.
There were over 300 persons present to witness the handing over of the Source. Among the participants were Professor Gordon Shirley, Pro Vice Chancellor and Principal, The University of the West Indies, Mona; Mrs Pauletta Chevannes and daughters Misses Amba and Abena Chevannes; Ms Saffrey Brown, General Manager, Jamaica National Building Society Foundation; Inspector Keith Steele, Head, August Town Police Station, members of the August Town community and Ministers Fraternal, Representatives of Fathers’ Inc; Mr Morton Wilson, Principal, August Town Primary School; Professor Mark Figueroa, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences as well as UWI staff and Mr David Henry, President, Community Development Council (CDC).

“The Source was established to enable residents to fulfill their social economic and educational potential,” said Professor Gordon Shirley, Principal of the UWI, Mona. He pointed out that The UWI had played a part in its development in Greater August Town through collaboration with its UWI Township Project.

As a neighboring community to The University of the West Indies, he said his institution had started the outreach Township Project to the Greater August Town community as many of its students and workers lived there. Professor Shirley declared that The Source was seen as playing an important role in this developmental thrust.

By choosing to shoulder the responsibility for The UWI Mona Source, he said he expected that the university’s library would operate in parallel with the UWI library system; and that it would also provide employment opportunities for University students.

“This is something that we hope, resources allowing, that we can expand and make a richer and better resource for Greater August Town,” the UWI Principal declared. “We believe that August Town will be a model community for all of Jamaica.”
Mr Michael Edward James, Member, UWI Mona Source Management Committee hands a satisfied customer her printed School Based Assessment (SBA) documents.
The Mona Social Services UWI Township Project partnered with the School of Education, UWI and the Greater August Town Basic Schools Principals' Association to initiate a Christmas Card Project.

The main objectives of the project were to highlight the creativity and talent among the children in the basic schools and to use the opportunity to raise needy funds for the Township Project. Mona Common and Hermitage Basic Schools contributed to the artwork under the supervision of their teachers. They were instructed to create paintings focusing on the Christmas theme, “the Manger”. The four best pieces of artwork were then selected and printed.

The Project was spearheaded by Dr Paulette Feraria, School of Education, UWI, Mona. The project was targeted to make approximately J$120,000. A total of $38,000 was collected, $64,000 is outstanding and $110,000 represents cards remaining for circulation during Christmas 2012.

Samples of the Christmas cards.
UWI Mona Source Courier Services

The UWI Mona Source Courier Services was established in March 2012 to provide efficient and fast courier services targeted to the UWI community. Residents of the Greater August Town community who had access to a motorbike or bicycle were invited to participate in a two day training workshop. Three residents participated and were awarded certificate of achievement by the Mona Social Services.

Training was conducted by Mrs Marvalyn Campbell, Human Resource Officer, Mona School of Business.

Six couriers including three residents of Greater August Town have been employed on an on-call basis. Mails and packages are picked up and delivered for various departments on the UWI campus as well as in the corporate area. The UWI Mona Source intends to expand this venture by widening its client base as well as offering additional certification training sessions in the near future.

The training allowed the participants, two of whom did not have any form of certification, the opportunity to be officially certified by an entity. This has given them a sense of empowerment and increased their confidence and self esteem.
The UWI Mona Source had its first Management Committee meeting on April 16, 2012.

The Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month to share ideas and strategies to improve the operations of the Source. It is observed that there have been improvements in the accounting, maintenance and daily operations of the Source. In June 2012 a surplus was achieved for the first time since the Mona Social Services: University Township took over operations in June 2011.

Among the services introduced are a courier service, designing and printing of certificates, posters, event tickets, business cards and flyers and printing basic school examination papers. A survey is being conducted to expand business opportunities through the introduction of a bill payment service.

Members of the Community Development Council are being prepared to assume operations of the entity in 2013. They are being introduced to the inner operations of the Source to facilitate a smooth transition.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Dr Olivene Burke is Chair of the Management Committee

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Olivene Burke</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Mona Social Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Michael-Edward James</td>
<td>Administrative Research Assistant and Programmes Manager</td>
<td>Mona Social Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Saffrey Brown</td>
<td>Ex Officio Member and Technical Advisor</td>
<td>UWI Mona Source</td>
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<td>Ms Kay Brown</td>
<td>Head</td>
<td>Business Development Office, UWI</td>
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<td>Ms Jacqueline McLean</td>
<td>Finance Officer</td>
<td>UWI Mona Source</td>
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<td>Mrs Kathleen Sambo</td>
<td>Operations Manager</td>
<td>UWI Mona Source</td>
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<td>Mrs Marvlain Campbell</td>
<td>Assistant Secretary</td>
<td>UWI Mona Source</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr David Henry</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Community Development Council (Greater August Town)</td>
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<td>Mr Kenneth Wilson</td>
<td>Community Liaison Officer</td>
<td>UWI Township</td>
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Employment Opportunity and Work Experience

Mona Social Services (MSS) has been providing employment and on-the-job experience to residents of the Greater August Town and other persons outside of the community. A total of ten persons were hired by the UWI Mona Source in various categories and at different times.

Presently full time staff consists of Ms Althea Gyles, Administrative Assistant and Mr Sanjay Wilson, Support Staff (part-time). On call for courier and other services are eight additional persons. UWI Township Challenge Scholarship recipients Ms Shenhaye Ferguson, Mr Jevoun Huffstead and Ms Careen Harris provided valuable assistance while gaining on-the-job training and experience as well as being mentored during their employment at the Mona Source.

Mr Kenneth Wilson and Mr Michael-Edward James complete the full-time staff of the Mona Social Services. Mr James benefitted from in-training aimed at development in administration, business management, community development as well as crime and violence mediation. There are also a number of volunteers in the Programme. Eleven other support persons have provided services on call for Mona Social Services including Mr Alvin Millwood.
Community Development

Organise and implement legal, financial and property structures that will support its objectives.
The Greater August Town Women’s Action Group (GATWAG) was formed in 2008 out of a University Township Project conference hosted by the late Professor Barry Chevannes. The Group had its first meeting on June 7, 2008 at The University of the West Indies Bowl and has since been having meetings at The UWI Township Office, Bryce Hill Plaza, August Town.

The Women’s Action Group’s mission is to unite women for empowerment and transformation for the betterment of August Town. As change agents, the group aims to enhance social growth and development in an effort to sustain a peaceful environment.

The objectives of GATWAG is to:

- mobilize and develop the talents and skills of women in the community;
- enable women in the community to contribute to their personal advancement of themselves, their community and the wider Jamaican society;
- stem the plague of violence and maintain peace within the community.

In August 2011 WAG unveiled their logo on a prominent community notice board at Bryce Hill square. The positioning of the logo establishes the visibility of the WAG and signifies their sustainability and commitment to doing all that is necessary to nurture and contribute to the transformation of the community.
The Women’s Action Group has undertaken numerous projects and have had some notable achievements since 2008. These include:

- Assistance to over 140 children with back-to-school supplies in partnership with stakeholders;
- Hosting Christmas treats in collaboration with stakeholders;
- Providing meals for over 100 shut-ins in Christmas 2011;
- Conducting motivation/empowerment sessions with professional individuals such as the police;
- Facilitating students acquiring the UWI Township and Citizen Security and Justice Programme (CSJP) scholarships;
- Providing opportunity for women of the community to further their education and skill training;
- Facilitating job placements;
- Serving as liaison personnel between the community, UWI Township Project and the wider UWI to undertake various projects, activities and events.

The group is instrumental in identifying children who are deemed “At Risk” (behavioral problems) with technical support and guidance provided by UWI Township Social Work Practicum worker. Ms Talasse Moodie was assigned to work with WAG on the project. The target group comprises students who reside in Greater August Town and attend one of the following schools: August Town Primary, Hope Valley Experimental and Mona Heights Primary. Intervention will be planned from the data gathered.
The Mona Social Services UWI Township Project officially opened the Barry Chevannes Fathers’ Resource Centre, on August 9, 2011 at the Bryce Hill Plaza, August Town.

The idea for the establishment of the Resource Centre was the brainchild of Dr Herbert Gayle, Director of Fathers’ Inc, Anthropologist and Senior Lecturer of the Department of Psychology, Sociology and Social Work, UWI. He realized the need to build upon the work of the late Honorable Professor Barry Chevannes, who founded the Fathers’ Inc support group in 1991. Fathers Incorporated was set up as a vehicle to help eradicate the negative stereotypes which have dogged Jamaican fathers. Through a support base of specially designed workshops and awards the group makes an effort to boost the efforts of men towards becoming dedicated, caring and responsible parents.

Over 300 persons were present at the launch. These included Professor Gordon Shirley, Principal, The University of the West Indies, Mona; Mrs Pauletta Chevannes and daughters Misses Amba and Abena Chevannes; Mr Earl Jarrett, General Manager, Jamaica National Building Society; Ms Saffrey Brown, General Manager, Jamaica National Building Society Foundation; Inspector Keith Steele, Head, August Town Police Station; Mr Horace Levy, Peace Management Initiative; Professor Mark Figueroa, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, UWI; Mr Robert Campbell, Deputy Chairman, Community Development Council; Dr St Aubyn Bartlett, Member of Parliament and Reverend Dr Stevenson Samuels, President, August Town Ministerial Fraternal.
Fathers Inc has been offering counselling services to residents of GAT since June 2011. Contact is made with the office via telephone, email and walk-ins.

In May and June 2012 the Centre received three calls from parents living in the Kingston Metropolitan Area. Coordinator, Mr Michael-Edward James pre counselled each and referred them to other senior members who assisted the families. Clients’ situations included grief counselling for adolescents who lost their fathers, family counselling for a single father struggling with two delinquent adolescent daughters and a single mother trying to cope with two delinquent adolescent daughters. Fathers Inc was able to intervene in all these cases and provide support to the parties.

Young men in the community of Greater August Town have been engaged in discussions and provided with information about the opportunities that exist under the Mona Social Services as well as the Challenge Scholarship programme.

Director, Dr Herbert Gayle, launched the “1000 Fathers contribute 1000 dollars” campaign in June 2012 on his radio programme “The Complete Picture” which is aired on the UWI radio station Newstalk 93 FM. The campaign was launched to: (1) raise funds to assist overburdened young males who have taken the responsibility to provide for their families.

These young men do not have children of their own but were coerced from pre-adolescence to work to assist their mothers, siblings and extended families; (2) to assist in providing scholarships for these individuals and; (3) to provide economic support to their families to allow them time to pursue their educational goals. The fourth aim is to establish a 24/7 Hotline geared to offering fathers advice on Family Court related issues. This service is important because it was found that many fathers were not aware of their rights nor prepared to face the courts when summoned.
The Mona Social Services (MSS) continues its objective to complete the African Gardens Multi-purpose Sports Complex. On May 23, 2012 the MSS team led by Dr. Olivene Burke joined residents to construct bathroom facilities and complete rendering of unfinished areas of the perimeter wall. Representatives from UWI who also assisted were Ms Talese Moodie, Social Work student, Mr Alvin Millwood and Mr Michael-Edward James, Mona Social Services representative.

Members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force led by Deputy Superintendent Roblin Wedderburn, Head, Community Safety and Security, St. Andrew Central Police Division offered assistance in preparing and serving meals to the work team.
The project was well-supported as over 50 residents came out for the work-day. Camaraderie was high and the workday ended on a positive note. The project involved over one week of work following the Labour Day community activity.

Unfortunately, violence which erupted in June prevented the timely completion of the Sports Complex. Work has resumed since August and is being completed under the supervision of Mr Millwood.
The Mona Social Services: UWI Township has partnered with the Centre for Tourism Policy and Research, UWI, Mona to realize a tour package concept for international and domestic tourist groups. The historical Bedward Church and Hope River, Sizzla Studio and Daddy Rhudd Revival Church will be some of the main attractions on the proposed tour. The package should incorporate the entire community, with each district choosing a particular attraction to be included in the tour.

The team proposed that the tour be conducted in open-air tram cars which transport the visitors to various stops where they will be able to learn and interact with the community. Residents will be employed as tour guides. Businesses such as restaurants and shops will be able to benefit by offering meals and souvenir items for sale.

Following six months of discussions with stakeholders the package was launched on August 1, during the Greater August Town Independence celebrations at the UWI Bowl.

Since April 2012 there have been weekly meetings with committee members and residents of the areas in the GAT committee. Representatives from the Centre have been teaching participants about tourism and the potential impact this could have on the community.

Residents were provided with basic guidelines on how to develop a tourist package. Trainees are encouraged to interact with other members to gather information about the area. This information will be reviewed and implemented on the tour.
Health

Addressing the environmental and health problems that affect community residents, University students and staff
The Mona Social Services University Township Project partnered with the Foundation for International Self Help (FISH) Clinic in conducting free eye screening examinations to over 350 students from the two primary schools in Greater August Town: August Town Primary and Hope Valley Experimental Primary Schools. The children were screened for visionary impairments, optical injuries and diet irregularities. The FISH team found that some students suffered from refraction, eye injuries and excessive consumption of foods high in fat.

The students, parents and staff members are now more knowledgeable about the optical health of children in grades one and six and are better able to assist in identifying students with optical issues that may be marring their academic performance.

The UWI Township team is in the process of identifying sources of funding to assist students who are in need of assistance to correct defects.
Mona Social Services: A Benefactor of Medical Expenses Contribution

The UWI Mona Social Services: University Township in collaboration with the Office of the Principal, UWI, Professor Gordon Shirley, came to the aid of a resident of August Town who was in need of medical assistance.

The parent approached Mona Social Services for assistance for her child who was diagnosed with scoliosis. In collaboration with Professor Denise Eldemire Shearer, Head of the Department Community Health and Psychiatry, Mona Social Services intervened in the case. The result was a reduction in the costs of medical treatment from J$1,500,000 to approximately J$230,000. The mother of the recipient has expressed her heartfelt thanks to The University of the West Indies, especially Professors Shirley and Eldemire-Shearer.

At a recent consultation session with the child, she stated that “I am fine now. The pain is less. I wear it all the time. The pain has also been reduced when I am at school.”

The student is now able to attend school more frequently in order to gain the necessary knowledge and skills to contribute in the community and the nation as a whole.

The Mona Social Services team is elated that another child has benefitted from a programme that is geared to the holistic development of an inner-city community thus improving the quality of life of the citizens of the Greater August Town community.

Assisting in the Greater August Town Community Health Centre

The UWI Mona Social Services Township continues to cater to the needs of the community by providing assistance with health issues and concerns.

Following a discussion with community members in May 2011, two community members, Mrs Isolyn Adamson who is a trained Social Worker and Mrs Linnybeth Henry volunteered to assist in the Community Health Centre. The feedback from the community is that the services at the Community Health Centre which residents of Greater August Town are able to access have been remarkably improved.
Residents of the Hermitage and Goldsmith Villa Communities brought to the attention of the Mona Social Services the impact of the UWI Treatment plant on the Greater August Town communities in particular Hermitage and Gold Smith Villa.

Several meetings were facilitated between residents and the Head of Life Sciences, Professor Dale Webber and his team with a view to work together to resolve issues including those affecting the environment. The UWI wall is now fully constructed and residents are comfortable with the arrangements. Not only do they feel more protected but over 40 residents were employed during the construction of the wall.
Special Projects

*Increase awareness and visibility of the Mona Social Services Company.*
On April 15, 2012 the 5th Anniversary of the Source in August Town was given special acknowledgement and visibility by the Jamaica National Foundation. It was a special occasion for celebration as the August Town Source was the first to be established by JN Foundation in 2007.

Mr Warren Roy Gordon, E-media Manager, JN Foundation and his team highlighted the achievements. He took photographs and videos of the operations and interacted with clients. They interviewed customers who conducted business on the day as well as Dr Olivene Burke, Chair, UWI, Source Management Committee, Mr Kenneth Wilson, Community Liaison Officer, UWI Township Project, and Mr Michael-Erward James, Administrator, Mona Social Services and Programmes Manager, Source.

Mr Blake revealed that the UWI Mona Source was featured not only because of the 5th anniversary but the exceptional standards and the growth the business has shown since JN Foundation handed over operations to Mona Social Services in 2011. Since the visit JN Foundation has updated their web-pages with a pictorial spread and video feature.

The video feature is posted on JN Foundation’s Youtube channel with links to UWI Township and UWI Mona Source facebook pages and has received over 5,400 views to date.
According to Ms Saffrey Brown, General Manager JN Foundation this is the greatest number of viewership that the JN Foundation Youtube channel has ever received despite having over 50,000 facebook followers. Mr Gordon mentioned that the feature will be edited for viewing on TVJ’s Ray of Hope series. The video feature can be viewed at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uwsuGoBvnI0&feature=share

The JN Foundation representatives were quite impressed during their visit in April and have since consulted Mr James for advice on how to improve the quality of service in other Source facilities island-wide. Subsequently Ms Merlin Williams, General Manager of the newly opened Source in Savanna-la-Mar visited August Town. She spent a day with Mr James to observe and gather information and ideas on how to operate the Source. Mr Blake who is currently the acting Manager for the Source in Marverly, frequently consulted Mr James seeking advice on developmental strategies.

JN Foundation has promised to continue to support the UWI Mona Source in the Greater August Town in its advancement.
Establishing Partnerships
UWI Social Work Unit

UWI Social Work Practicum Students in Schools

The partnership with the Social Work Unit of the UWI began in September 2011 when two undergraduate students, Ms Talese Moodie and Ms Gabriela Johnson (second and third year respectively) who are reading for degrees in Social Work, were assigned to the University Township to pursue their Practicum which is a requirement for the award of their degree. They were provided with the opportunity to work on the project over a six month period which ended in April 2012.

The mutually positive partnership was enhanced with the assignment of 19 first year Social Work to schools in the community. Two students were placed at each of the nine basic schools, two at Fathers’ Inc. Resource Centre and one at the Office of the Mona Social Services for a four week period.

Social Work students observed and interacted with the children in the schools as well as parents and other persons in the community. They assisted in conducting classes on Social Studies and Hygiene and helped with preparations for the Basic Schools’ Football competition. In addition, they undertook administrative duties as required. Their supervisors at the schools reported that the social workers were very helpful as their assistance gave the schools extra hands to achieve the goal of improving the learning environment for the children. The children at the schools also felt very comfortable with the social workers and could be found clinging to them during visits.

Dr Olivene Burke in discussion with Social Work Practicum students Ms Talise Moodie and Ms Gabriela Johnson.

Social Work Administrators provide Clinical Interventions

A first year Social Work Diploma Programme student, Ms Hyperi Nelson, was assigned to Mona Social Services for the period June 30 to July 27, 2012. Her interest was administration thus she assisted in identifying and completing proposal for funding for the Mona Social Services.

Ms Nelson spent time in the Greater August Town community where she also provided supervised grievance counselling and therapy sessions for children and adults who were affected by a homicide incident in the African Gardens community. She was also able to assist Dr Claudette Crawford-Brown who provided trauma therapy following the upheaval.
University of Connecticut School of Social Work
Masters Programme

In 2011 representatives including Professor Salome Raheim, Dean of the School of Social Work, University of Connecticut (UCONN) USA and senior lecturers met with the Mona Social Services Township team to learn more about the organization and the possibility of incorporating MSS operations into their international practicum programme. This meeting was facilitated by the Social Work Unit, UWI. The visitors were treated to presentations from representatives of the Mona Social Services and residents of the Greater August Town community.

Professor Salome Raheim and her party were so impressed that they immediately requested that a partnership be established where students from the University of Connecticut’s programme could fulfil their practicum requirements with the Mona Social Services. In June 2012 Ms Gwendolyn Williams, a Masters programme student from the School of Social Work, UCONN was assigned to pursue two months practicum with the UWI Township Project. In addition to working on intervention projects in the community, Ms Williams assisted in identifying local and international funding possibilities for Mona Social Services. She also co-edited the June 2012 quarterly Newsletter for the Mona Social Services UWI Township and participated in a number of community activities including the Corner Lectures.
At the lectures she circulated the MSS Newsletter and brochures, spoke to participants, and took photographs. Ms Williams was also involved in grievance alleviation activities with children affected by the flare up of violence in the African Gardens community. She expressed that during her time with the organization she has learnt a lot and hopes to use the model in her own country. She added that the placement assisted in her development and understanding of a different culture.

On July 25, 2012 Practicum Supervisor, Professor Barris Malcolm, School of Social Work, UCONN visited the Mona Social Services to assess Ms Williams and to receive feedback from the Mona Social Services: UWI Township and Social Work Unit teams. Following her presentation Professor Malcolm expressed his satisfaction in the programme and her development. He mentioned that the University of Connecticut, is looking at the possibility of emulating the UWI Township six-pillar model by adopting communities in the cities of Hartford and New Haven, Connecticut. He also committed on behalf of his Dean, Professor Salome Raheim, to continue their association and expand the collaboration between University of Connecticut, The University of the West Indies, Mona and Mona Social Services.

This partnership has assisted the MSS to increase its visibility and the UWI on a whole both locally and abroad. The partnership also aided the organizations’ goal to expose residents of Greater August Town to persons from other cultural backgrounds and worldviews. It has shown them that their work has impacted others outside the community and may give them a sense of empowerment. It is also expected that such partnerships can assist the Mona Social Services: UWI Township to attract grants that will help toward self sufficiency.

Mr Alvin Millwood, MSS: UWI Township staff and Ms Gwendolyn Williams pose for a snapshot after a day in the field.
Pedro Noguera, Professor of Education at New York University and an urban sociologist who has a special interest in male development and family relationships heard about the Barry Chevannes Fathers’ Inc. Resource Centre from Professor Brian Meeks, Director, Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES), UWI, Mona and was intrigued. During his visit to the island to present at a public lecture hosted by SALISES in January 2012, arrangements were made through Mrs Arlene Supersad of SALISES for a meeting with the Director of Fathers’ Inc., Dr Herbert Gayle.

An information sharing session was facilitated along with a tour of the UWI Township Project. Professor Noguera wanted to have a greater understanding of the objectives and achievements of the Mona Social Services: UWI Township Project and Fathers’ Inc. He was specifically interested in learning more about the services offered at the Resource Centre and the areas in which he could possibly provide assistance.

Professor Noguera and his wife were provided with overviews of the work and achievements of the Resource Centre and the Mona Social Services: UWI Township Project. Following the presentation they were taken on a guided tour of the Resource Centre and UWI Mona Source facilities. They were also introduced to students from the UWI Social Work Unit who were working on their Practicum in the Township Project. Professor Noguera said that he was very impressed by the presentations and indicated that he would be able to contribute research materials to the Resource Centre. He also invited Dr Herbert Gayle to collaborate with him on research initiatives since they had similar interests studying crime and gangs.
On July 10, 2012 the Mona Social Services (MSS) Township in collaboration with the Jamaica Diaspora Institute met with Ms Julia Magnuson Ford, Mr Tarik Perkins and Mr Nicolas Knox from Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO) to discuss the assignment of a CUSO volunteer to the UWI Township for a period of one year.

Present at that meeting were Professor Neville Ying, Director and Ms Melesha Manderson, Executive Assistant, Jamaica Diaspora Institute, Ms Lesley Welsh and Ms Natalie Reid from the Manifesto group and Mr Michael-Edward James and Dr Olivene Burke, Mona Social Services.

In August 2012 the CUSO volunteer Mr Doudou Kalala joined MSS Township. He is a Congolese-born Canadian national. He has experience working in volatile environments and with conflict groups in Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya and the Republic of Congo. During his assignments in Africa he conducted need assessment evaluation projects for social organizations, designed proposals and performed translating duties. He has interests in Tae Kwon Do.

L-R : Mr Tarik Perkins, Dr Olivene Burke, Professor Neville Ying (far end of table), Ms Lesley Welsh, Mr Doudou Kalala and Ms Melesha Manderson.
Kalala is a former French teacher who has interest in environmental issues such as Climate Change. He will be utilizing his skills and expertise, knowledge and skills to improve the capacity of MSS Township and Manefesto Group to meet the needs of its client base. Mr Kalala could impact Mona Social Services’s understanding of how to resolve the political divisions in the community of Greater August Town.

The CUSO/JDI/MSS partnership has the potential to increase the international visibility and reputation of the Mona Social Services: University Township and the wider University of the West Indies. It provides foundation for a sustainable relationship with voluntary service programmes in Canada and new possibilities with other organizations in that country can be established.

Mr Doudou Kalala (right) addresses the Mona Social Services and CUSO teams.
In July 2012, members of the Mona Social Services team were introduced to Mrs Marcia Constable, a Jamaica Diaspora based in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. Mrs Constable represents a number of Jamaican professional living in Atlanta who are interested in contributing to social programmes in inner-city communities in Jamaica.

She was informed about the Mona Social Services: University Township and committed to forge collaboration to assist the organization in achieving its objectives.

Professor Neville Ying, Director, Jamaica Diaspora Institute, UWI facilitated the meeting. In summing up the encounter Dr Burke stated that the collaboration has the potential for the Diaspora to send support to the MSS Township that reaches out to various needed persons in the communities surrounding The University of the West Indies.
Public Awareness and Visibility

One of the objectives of the Mona Social Services Township is increased public awareness and visibility. In order to achieve this a number of documents were introduced, designed, printed and distributed in the Greater August Town, UWI communities and the general public. These include:

- Mona Social Services Brochure
- UWI Mona Source Brochure
- Mona Social Services Newsletters (March and June 2012)
- “With Compliments” cards
- Mona Social Services UWI Township business cards
- UWI Mona Source business cards
- Basic School Championship 2011 and 2012 Pictorial Page
- Sales promotion flyers for Mona Source
- Information Sheets

In addition, Mona Social Services: UWI Township and UWI Mona Source Facebook pages were developed to provide a wider reach to the social network users. These pages are maintained by Mr Michael-Edward James.

Representatives of the Mona Social Services Township were involved in areas which enhanced their professional growth and development as well as recognising their corporate social responsibilities to the wider community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presentations</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presentations on Mona Social Services: UWI Township Project during The University of Connecticut School of Social Work Visit Presenters: Dr Olivene Burke, Mr Michael-Edward James and Mr Kenneth Wilson</td>
<td>October 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quarterly August Town Basic Schools Principals’ Association Meetings Presenter: Dr Olivene Burke</td>
<td>November 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>August Town Primary School Parenting Seminar Presenter: Mr Michael-Edward James, Fathers Inc Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>African Gardens Parenting Meeting: Presenter: Michael-Edward James</td>
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<tr>
<td>UWI Sewage and Treatment Plant Upgrade Public Awareness Meeting and presentation in August Town Presenter: Dr Olivene Burke</td>
<td>December 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentations on Mona Social Services: UWI Township Project during Professor Noguera from New York University visit to the Barry Chevannes Fathers Resource Centre and UWI Mona Source Presenters: Dr Olivene Burke, Dr Herbert Gayle and Mr Kenneth Wilson</td>
<td>January 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parents Teachers’ Association Meetings at Hermitage Basic School Presenter: Dr Olivene Burke</td>
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<td>Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Greetings at the 40&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Anniversary celebrations of the Hope Valley Experimental Primary School which began with a Church Service at the UWI Chapel.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Dr Olivene Burke</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>African Gardens Key Stakeholders Public Awareness on Violence Prevention Strategies</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Dr Olivene Burke</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Addressed the Hope Valley Experimental Primary School PTA on Financing Tertiary Education through Scholarship Arrangements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Dr Olivene Burke</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Presentation on Mona Social Services: UWI Township Project to Atlanta Diaspora Group represented by Mrs Marcia Constable</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Dr Olivene Burke</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Presentation on Mona Social Services: UWI Township Project during Canadian University Service Overseas International Team Visit</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Dr Olivene Burke and Mr Michael–Edward James</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>A number of community-based organisations and Parent Teachers’ Association meetings</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Presenters:</strong> Dr Olivene Burke and Mr Michael–Edward James</td>
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Mr Kenneth Wilson speaking during a visit to Greater August Town by representatives of the Diaspora.

Mr Michael-Edwards James, Administrator speaking about the MSS Challenge Scholarship Programme.
### Guest Speaker Engagements by Dr Olivene Burke

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School/Association</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica Red Cross</td>
<td><strong>Volunteering - The Mona Social Services UWI Township Case</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mona Common Basic School</td>
<td>Graduation Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goldsmith Villa Basic School</td>
<td>Graduation Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August Town Primary School</td>
<td>Graduation Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Schools’ Principals Association</td>
<td>Teachers’ Day Luncheon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope Valley Experimental Infant and Primary School</td>
<td>Teachers’ Day Luncheon</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Teachers celebrate at a Teachers’ Day Luncheon.
### Conferences/Seminars/Workshop/Lecture Attended

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 17, 2012</td>
<td>Achieving Equity in ICT for Women and Girls: Issues, Opportunities and Challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12, 2012</td>
<td>Derek Gordon Conference, Mona Visitors’ Lodge and Conference Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 12, 2012</td>
<td>Annual Dennis Irvine Lecture hosted by the University Council of Jamaica, Faculty of Law, UWI.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Diaspora Bonds: Partnering with the Diaspora for Investment and Economic Growth, Faculty of Law, UWI</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 8, 2012</td>
<td>Executive Leadership Training</td>
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<td>February 23, 2012</td>
<td>Developing your Course Outline</td>
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### Rapporteur Engagement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May-July 2012</td>
<td>Sports Policy Consultations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Rapporteur</td>
<td>Office of the Prime Minister of Jamaica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16, 2012</td>
<td>Workshop for Tertiary Institutions hosted by University Council of Jamaica, Terra Nova Hotel</td>
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</tbody>
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### Articles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Using a Scout Programme to enhance discipline in Grades 4-6 boys at an inner-city primary school in Kingston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentorship: Impact on UWI Township Challenge Scholarship Recipients</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Display Booths Participation

- Violence Prevention Alliance International Peace Day Display 2011 and 2012
- Greater August Town Arise Cultural Day (Flyers, pictorial and newsletters distributed)
- Mona School of Business Orientation
### Coordination Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 30-June 1, 2012</td>
<td>Provide technical assistance and coordination for the Commonwealth Secretariat Symposium.</td>
<td>Dr Olivene Burke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Michael-E. James</td>
<td>Coordinator, Father Inc Resource Centre</td>
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### Lectures

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Michael-E. James with Dr Herbert Gayle</td>
<td>Introduction to Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Olivene Burke</td>
<td>Learning Strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Olivene Burke</td>
<td>Transformational Leadership</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Radio Engagements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Engagement Details</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Michael-E. James                | • Co-Host with Dr Herbert Gayle *The Complete Picture* on Newstalk 93 FM  
|                                 | • Interviewed on Power 106 FM                               |
| Dr Olivene Burke                | Interviewed on:  
|                                 | • Beyond the Headlines, RJR  
|                                 | • News Talk 93 FM  
|                                 | • Power 106 FM  
|                                 | • Nationwide  
|                                 | • Teachers’ Time  
|                                 | • First Edition, Hot 102                                    |

### Research Activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Olivene Burke</td>
<td>Editor, Quarterly Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Michael-E. James</td>
<td>Field Assistant to Dr Herbert Gayle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Boards and Committees

#### Dr Olivene Burke
- Chair, UWI Mona Source Management Committee
- Chair, Caribbean Area Network for Quality Assurance in Tertiary Education (CANQATE) Conference Planning Committee 2012
- Member, 4-Member Oversight Committee for the MSB/DOMS merger
- Consultant, Sports Policy Green Paper Consultations - Working Committee
- Member, University Council of Jamaica 25th Anniversary Planning Committee
- Member, Violence Prevention and Alliance Steering Committee
- Member, Papine Area Development Committee (PDAC)
- Member, Change Management Committee, MSB/DOMS Merger
- Member, Curriculum Development in the Social Sciences, MSB
- Member, Faculty of Social Sciences (FSS) Faculty Day Planning Committee
- Corresponding Secretary, Hermitage Basic School Board
- Advisor, Greater August Town (GAT) Basic Schools Principals’ Association
- Advisor, GAT Women’s Action Group

#### Mr Michael-E. James
- Member, UWI Source Management Committee
- Recording Secretary, UWI Mona Source Management Committee
- Programmes Manager, UWI Source Management Committee
- Member, Greater August Town, Crime Watch Committee
Challenges
Challenges

**Education Environment**
- Access to the internet and other resources
- Re-socialize teachers with regard to changing the political mind set
- Lack of resources to improve basic schools infrastructure and the human resource capacity (teacher, qualification, books registration)

**Use of Sport, Talent and Cultural Resources**
- Lack of integration among communities
- Threat of violence
- Lack of community empowerment in GAT (Communities do not value their facilities and continue to rely on the University’s)
- Lack of mechanism to identify talent and skills (music, drama and dance)

**Crime and Violence Initiative**
- Volatile environment
- Political environment
- Education level in the Greater August Town community
Entrepreneurship, Business Development and Employment

- Outdated and malfunctioning computers, software and printers
- Disinterest in long term career choices (i.e. residents prefer to be labourers rather than skilled plumbers, electricians etc.
- Very little employment opportunities

Community Development

- Mobilization of the community to participate in development projects
- Political environment (rivalry)
- Community perception that UWI is a “grandfather” or that politicians should hand out gifts for them to keep peace

Administrative and Office Resource Needs

- Lack of trained personnel with senior administrative skills
- Lack of trained personnel with advanced computer application skills
- Lack of competent researcher
- Lack of office space and up-to-date equipment
- Lack of appropriate transportation
- Lack of funding
## FORMATION OF THE BASIC SCHOOLS PRINCIPALS’ ASSOCIATION
This included the nine basic schools in the Greater August Town community
1. Christ the King                      6. Escarpment Road
2. Goldsmith Villa                    7. Covenant
3. Church of Christ                    8. Shaloam Pre-School
5. Hermitage

## SIGNING OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between The University of the West Indies and each of the nine basic schools. The University has committed to facilitate the training of the teachers and to assist with infrastructural and other developments. In return the teachers will serve the community for no less than three years.

## SCHOOL CERTIFICATION
Seven of nine institutions achieved Early Childhood Commission (ECC) permit to operate. Goldsmith Villa and August Town Seventh Day Adventist Basic Schools are still pursuing the process.

## TEACHER UPGRADE
The School of Education identified two tutors of Caribbean Examination Council (CXC) level in Mathematics and English to teach scheduled classes with the aim of enabling all teachers to attain at least five CXC subjects, the level at which they can access the teacher training diploma.

i. In three basic schools, three teachers are now qualified to the Bachelor’s degree level (own initiative).
ii. In one school there was one teacher who already possessed a degree.
iii. Four teachers have received Teacher Training Diplomas representing an increase of two over 2008 (own initiative).
iv. One teacher is pursuing the Diploma in Early Childhood Education.
v. Six teachers have CXC subjects and are pursuing the National Council on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (NCTVET) levels 1 & 2 qualifications while eight teachers have the Jamaica School Certificate (JSC) and are also pursuing NCTVET qualifications.
Project Achievements 2008-2011
Education

THE QUALITY LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME
The Quality Leadership Programme was co-ordinated by the Office of Students Services and Development with support from Mona Social Services representatives. Basic school administrators were allowed to identify projects along with the Quality Leadership students and encouraged to target areas for development which would help the schools to achieve certification status. Ten groups of Quality Leadership students participated in projects in seven basic schools and two primary schools.

The following projects were completed in the schools:
Group 1  Renovated the sick bay and repaired the ceiling of the Resource Room at Mona Common Basic School.
Group 2  Provided furniture for and renovated the play area at Hope Valley Experimental Primary.
Group 3  Constructed a sick bay, equipped with toilet facilities, shelves and safety doors.
        Furnished a Resource Room with books and educational aids at Christ the King Basic School.
Group 4  Installed toilet set, tiled bathroom and renovated play and dining areas at Shaloam Pre-School.
Group 5  Renovated and equipped play area with swings and improved fencing at August Town Seventh Day Adventist Basic School.
Group 6  Constructed a playground, erected slide, see-saw, monkey bar and swing at August Town Primary.
Group 7  Installed bathroom fixtures and tile bathroom area at Gold Smith Villa Basic School.
Group 8  Repaired furniture and donated fans as well as sand and stones for the construction of the school's retaining wall at Escarpment Road Basic School.
Group 9  Installed security perimeter fence to the front of the school and donated fan to Hermitage Basic School.
Group 10 Constructed a security fence and renovated the play area at Christ the King Basic School.
Project Achievements 2008-2011

Education

- **UWI HOMECOMING SERVICE DAY ACTIVITIES**
  Four basic schools benefitted from the UWI Mona Homecoming Service Day on February 20, 2010.
  - The security perimeter walls were painted and play areas renovated at Shaloam Pre-School.
  - The school building and playground at the Mona Common Basic School received a major facelift.
  - Covenant Basic and Mona Common Basic Schools received computers.
  - The computer laboratory at Hope Valley Experimental Infant and Primary School was equipped with nine computers and software.

- **REMEDIAL LITERACY**
  The School of Education’s Joan Spencer-Ernandez has been actively engaged in literacy remedial programme at August Town Primary and Hope Valley Experimental Primary.
  The Mico Diagnostic Reading Test was administered to forty-six (46) students from Grade 4 who were referred for testing at August Town Primary School. Testing resumes in September with Grades 1 to 3 students along with intervention programmes that were developed and implemented for the 2010 – 2011 academic year.

- **ONE LAPTOP PER CHILD PILOT PROJECT**
  The One Laptop Per Child Project has been introduced with one cohort of Grade 4 students and a school server to facilitate the storage and delivery of a range of educational content geared towards the GSAT examination.
  Twenty-five computers were presented to August Town Primary in the first stage of the project in 2011. The intention is to increase the number of computers to the full cohort of 60 students.

- **TRAUMA THERAPY**
  A number of cases of students who were sexually abused and those traumatized by violence were addressed through therapeutic intervention facilitated by Dr Claudette Crawford Brown of the UWI’s Social Work Unit.
Education

- **PARENTING SKILLS WORKSHOP**
  Nine principals, twelve parents along with two representatives of the Parent Teachers’ Associations were trained in a Parenting Skills “Train-the-Trainer” workshop in December 2011. These trainers will be utilized to train other basic and primary schools’ principals and Parent Teachers’ Association representatives in future parenting skills workshops.

- **IDENTIFICATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL POPULATION, CERTIFICATION AND EMPLOYABILITY STATUS**
  Research conducted by Horace Levy indicated that a large majority of the school-leavers or those about to leave school were either not employed or had no prospect of employment but were interested in continuing education or enrolment in a HEART Trust/NTA training programme. Students engaged in social work practicum are assigned to the 58 school-leavers with the aim of developing an intervention programme to be implemented later.

- **UWI CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME**
  Since establishing the Scholarship Programme in September 2008, 19 Challenge Scholarships have been awarded to students from the Greater August Town communities.

  A Book Club was formed for the purpose of introducing Challenge Scholarship recipients to novels outside of regular school texts. Two novels were read and discussed. Feedback from the students indicated that the novels were stimulating and interesting. The Book Club was funded by Barry Chevannes and Olivene Burke.
## Project Achievements 2008-2011

### Skills Training

- **HEART TRUST-NTA CERTIFICATION**
  Over 150 community members were accommodated in the training programme undertaken by HEART Trust-NTA for UWI Campus employees who lacked training and certification. Training was undertaken in the following areas:

1. **General Housekeeping Level 1**
   Nineteen persons from the Greater August Town communities completed training in 2009 and 5 persons in 2010.

2. **General Construction**
   10 persons completed training in 2009

- **Landscaping**
  Training is on schedule for a later date.

- **COMPUTER APPLICATION TRAINING**
  Computer Data Entry is set to begin in 2011.

- **REMEDIAL PROGRAMMES**
  Those whose level of literacy and numeracy fell below Grade 7 were enrolled in the following programmes:
  1. A computer-based remedial programme
  2. Autoskills training for those reading below level 1.
  A remediation intervention programme was started for persons who were unsuccessful in passing the HEART Trust-NTA placement test and those reading at level 3 but below level 7. Mathematics and English were the focus of the intervention.

- **HEART TRUST-NTA ENTRY TEST**
  Twenty one persons subsequently sat the and passed the HEART Trust-NTA Test.

Graduates from the UWI HEART Trust-NTA Programme (October 2011) wait their turn to receive their certificates.
Project Achievements 2008-2011

Crime Prevention

- **PEACE AGREEMENT SIGNED**
  Five of 6 warring factions in the Greater August Town communities drew up and signed a Peace Agreement, which was witnessed by the members of the University community (including Principal Gordon Shirley) in 2008.

- **REDUCTION IN HOMICIDES**
  There was a reported 50% reduction in homicide (15-8), over the previous year. There is a noted further reduction in crime and violence in the area.

- **CORNER WORKSHOPS HELD**
  Three corner shop workshops were held addressing issues of crime and violence.

- **SPORTS ENABLES PEACE IN HERMITAGE**
  There is an effort in Hermitage (which is not a signatory to the Peace Agreement) to change from within. The community has funded and developed the Hermitage playing field. Sports and cultural events are held annually as a means of upholding peace and enhancing community development.

- **PEACE MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE**
  Two members of the University community served on the Peace Management Initiative (PMI), a body instrumental to the reduction in crime and violence.

Presenters at a session reinforcing the message of community peace.

Children join the campaign to promote peace.

The Peace Management Initiative team members on a walk through the Greater August Town community.
Community Development

- **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED**
  A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Community Development Council (CDC) and the UWI Township Project. Professor Gordon Shirley, UWI Principal and Oscar James, CDC Chairman signed the documents.

- **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OFFICE**
  The Community Development Council (CDC) is provided with office space in the Barry Chevannes UWI Township office.

- **PROJECT NEWSLETTER INTRODUCED**
  A newsletter of the University Township Project was introduced in December 2009. The issues circulated include highlights of the work and achievements of the GAT intervention and one dedicated in tribute to the late Professor the Honourable Barry Chevannes.

- **BARRY CHEVANNES FATHERS’ RESOURCE CENTRE LAUNCHED**
  An office was established for the Barry Chevannes Fathers’ Incorporated Resource Centre within the Mona Social Services: University Township Project office in July 2011. A launch ceremony was held in August 2011. Professor Chevannes was one of the founders of Fathers Inc, Jamaica.

- **SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS PRACTICUM**
  Four Social Work students of the Department of Sociology, Psychology & Social Work, UWI were placed on 6 weeks practicum in the Greater August Town partnership. As part of the intervention 20 males between the ages of 17-24 participated in a one week personal development workshop themed: “Working Together for a Change” on July 25-29, 2011. The intervention was geared towards addressing issues affecting men of the Greater August Town community.

- **DOCUMENTARY**
  Gennil Reuben, a student of the Caribbean Institute of Media and Communications, UWI produced a short documentary on the Greater August Town initiative entitled “Harnessing the August Town Talent.”
Project Achievements 2008-2011
Sports and Culture

- **COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER APPOINTED**
  
  A Liaison Officer, Mr Kenneth Wilson was employed with responsibility for sports competitions and cultural expositions which provide the youth with outlets for their creative energy.

- **DONATION OF FOOTBALL FIELD**
  
  The University has converted one of its football fields as the home ground for the August Town Football Club, which in 2009 made history in becoming the only club to have returned to the Premier League in the season following its relegation.

- **AFRICAN GARDENS MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS COMPLEX**
  
  African Gardens Sports Complex was built in collaboration with the University of Technology under the 2009-2013 Workplan.

- **INAUGURAL BASIC SCHOOLS’ ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIP**
  
  The Basic Schools’ Athletic Championship held in 2011 received sponsorship from several corporate entities and individuals as well as parents and teachers of the basic schools. The corporate sponsors included Jamaica Broilers, WISYNCO, Jamaica National Building Society, I Scoop, Mae’s Catering and Chung’s Catering. Additional support was provided by UWI Challenge Scholarship Students, community volunteers, representatives from University of Technology, UWI Preston and Rex Nettleford Halls as well as UWI Marketing and Communications Office.

Mr Kenneth Wilson, Head Coach and Community Liaison Officer raps with young footballers.
Entrepreneurial Activities

● HOME OWNERS’ ASSOCIATION FORMED
The formation of the Greater August Town Home Owners’ Association (GATHOA), whose objective is the expansion of their houses to accommodate University students. Discussions have taken place with the Jamaica National Building Society (JNBS) to provide mortgages.

● HOME OWNERS’ CONFERENCE
An inaugural conference organized by GATHOA and MSS with over 60 home owners in attendance was held in July 2011. Presentations were made by JNBS, GAT Police and The UWI (OSSD, Tourism & Hospitality Unit and MSS).

● ORNAMENTAL FISH FARMING
Ornamental Fish Farming workshops and training sessions were held during 2010-2011.

● THE SOURCE
The Source is a community resource enterprise operating in the Greater August Town community which provides members with easier access to services and resources that facilitate individual and community empowerment and contribute to Jamaica’s national economic development.

The service offerings of The Source was expanded under the 2011-2013 Workplan with the intention that Mona Social Services will manage it as a self-sustaining entity. The Source which started as a project under the Jamaica National Building Society Foundation (JNBSF) was handed over to the University Township Project under a partnership agreement with Jamaica National Building Society.
Project Achievements 2008-2011

Health

- **NUTRITIONAL FEEDING PROGRAMME FUNDED**
  A contribution of $118,000 was provided to support the school’s nutritional feeding programme at August Town Primary.

- **UWI HEALTH CENTRE EMPLOYS COMMUNITY MEMBERS**
  Two representatives from the GAT communities have been placed at the UWI Community Health Centre.

- **SUPPORTING STUDENT’S MEDICAL CARE**
  A contribution of $213,000 has been provided to assist a student with scoliosis requiring urgent medical care.

- **PARTNERSHIP WITH FISH MEDICAL CLINIC TO HOST COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR**
  Discussions have begun for a partnership arrangement with the Foundation for International Self Help (FISH) Medical Clinic and Mona Social Services: UWI Township to hold health fairs in the Greater August Town community.

Students partake of various drinks while attending a sporting event.
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