



PINE CAY PROJECT SUPPORTS EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT IN THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS IN 2014

Since 1991, Pine Cay Project has worked toward a single goal: the improvement of educational opportunities for the children and adults of the Turks and Caicos Islands. Any TCI school or other eligible organization wishing to be part of this effort may submit an application to Pine Cay Project, describing its improvement plan, its need for new resources to implement the plan, and the plan's consistency with the Project's funding criteria. If the Project board finds that the application meets the criteria and that the amounts requested are reasonable in light of local needs and Project resources, Pine Cay Project awards funds to the applicant to carry out its plan. Under its grant agreement with Pine Cay Project, the organization receiving the grant agrees to spend Project grant funds in accordance with its approved application and to submit a brief report six months after grant award. The report describes achievements under the grant and any problems encountered; the report also includes receipts for expenditures of grant funds.

In fiscal 2014, Pine Cay Project continued this work, addressing several local needs and priorities, as described in the summaries below. Two grants, totaling 51 percent of the total amount allocated, aimed to improve the reading achievement of elementary-grades students. Another two grants, which accounted for 44 percent of the total, aimed to improve students' knowledge and understanding of science and the environment. A final 5 percent of grant funds focused on improving awareness and understanding of autism and autism-

spectrum disorders among parents, educators, and members of the public. Regionally, 58 percent of Pine Cay Project grant funds were used to improve learning opportunities on Grand Turk, and 42 percent were used for learning enhancements based on Provo, with no applications received in 2014 from other TCI islands. In addition to these grants made in the Project's fiscal 2014, Pine Cay Project also made a grant immediately after the close of the fiscal year to Community Christian Academy, as also described below.

Ona Glinton Primary School

\$12,023 for books and other materials to improve reading instruction at this government school on Grand Turk



Under this project, led by Vice Principal Rhoda Williams, the school, which enrolls 272 students, purchased a large number of new books and other instructional materials to

significantly upgrade the teaching of reading to students in grades K-5. The grant application stated that the requested resources would improve students' "pronunciation of letter sounds and combinations, hence promoting reading fluency and overall literacy in the targeted grades." All students in these grades are now using the new materials and are benefiting from the rich learning experiences they offer. This school, which currently serves 272 students, suffered a devastating fire in 2011.

Hope Foundation for Autism Awareness

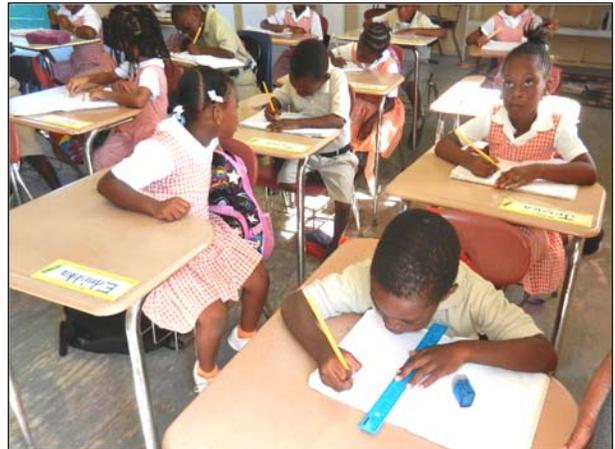
\$1,500 for a conference on autism held on Provo



Businesswoman and civic leader Maxcia Rigby formed the TCI Hope Foundation for Autism Awareness in order to inform and educate the public, and especially TCI educators and parents, about autism and related conditions. As Mrs. Rigby stated in her public letter to TCI schools, "by providing awareness to the community, children with autism can begin to receive the support and treatment they need, at school and at home." To launch this work, Mrs. Rigby planned a two-day conference for teachers, parents, and members of the public to learn more about autism. She turned to Pine Cay Project for a grant to bring in two autism experts to lead discussion sessions at the conference. A total of 54 people attended the Provo event. Attendees requested that additional sessions be scheduled and asked in particular for presentations on behavioral interventions that can support persons with autism in the classroom and at home.

Eliza Simons Primary School

\$2,498 for equipment and materials to improve instruction in science at this government school on Grand Turk



This school, which enrolls 249 students, requested financial support to purchase instructional materials and equipment in science. As described in its application, the school needed these items so that the teaching of science could incorporate hands-on learning experiences for students in all grades. With the new materials, science classrooms now involve students in experiments and investigations that teach students about electricity, chemical reactions, cell biology, human anatomy, astronomy, and climate and weather, among other topics.

Eliza Simons Primary School

\$4,471 for books and other materials to improve reading instruction

Books and materials purchased with this recent grant will support reading instruction that emphasizes students' understanding of written text and, for younger students especially, their recognition of letter sounds. The school is creating a new reading center in the school library and initiating individualized reading instruction for students who are struggling to master basic reading skills. Principal Juliet Thelwell said that the grant "provides resources to allow the school to improve the reading skills of all students, especially those who have

struggled with reading.” She further explained, “With this grant, we will reduce the number of students with weak skills in reading and encourage the love of reading among all students.”

Junior Park Warden Program

Dept. of Environment and Maritime Affairs
\$12,000 for the operation of this Provo-based summer science program



The 2014 Junior Park Warden Program focused on the natural environment of the TCI and potential threats to current ecosystems and to marine and terrestrial diversity, including the threats posed by invasive species. Students observed the visible impacts of these issues in field visits and learned how these threats can be mitigated through methods that include individual and group efforts to “reduce, re-use, recycle.” This summer program involved 30 high school students, who were selected based on their leadership potential and their expressed commitment to environmental protection and enhancement. Pine Cay Project has supported this summer program for 14 years.

Community Christian Academy

\$2,622 for books and other materials to be used by students from low-income families in this church-affiliated school on Provo

Like most other public and non-public schools in the TCI, students at this school must purchase their own schoolbooks every year, placing a serious financial strain on families with very

limited resources. Community Christian Academy, which serves 160 students, approached Pine Cay Project to support the purchase of schoolbooks for the 14 students in grades 3, 5, and 6 with the greatest financial need. The school provided the Project with book lists and an explanation of students’ needs in its Project application. It also agreed that the school would pass the books along to additional eligible students in subsequent years.

LOOKING AHEAD

Looking toward 2015, the trustees and friends of Pine Cay Project are committed to continuing the work of Pine Cay Project in improving the education of students in the Turks and Caicos Islands. In its November 2014 meeting, the trustees will consider several grant applications, including an application from Clement Howell High School, a very large public school in Provo that is experiencing serious educational needs. **Pine Cay Project needs to raise at least \$85,000** in the next eight months to maintain its momentum for education reform and improvement throughout the TCI.



We urgently ask for your donation to continue the Project’s work in improving instruction and extending educational opportunities to all children and young adults in the TCI. Pine Cay Project is a qualified nonprofit organization under the tax laws of the United States (Federal ID #341703337). Donations are tax deductible in the U.S. **Please note Pine Cay Project’s new U.S. address.**



Eliza Simons Primary School

Please mail your donation to:

Pine Cay Project
322 Central Park West #6B
New York, NY 10025

Preliminary 2014 Fiscal Statement (October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2014)

<i>Income</i>		\$55,132
<i>Donations</i>	\$55,125	
<i>Other</i>	\$7	
<i>Expenses</i>		\$36,687
<i>Grants*</i>	\$32,492	
<i>Administration</i>	\$4,195	

**Includes all grant awards made in Fiscal 2014, including one grant in which the grant check was not deposited until after the end of the fiscal year*

TRUSTEES OF PINE CAY PROJECT

Marie Yvonne Landel, Carlton Mills, Elizabeth Pickman,
 Beverly Plachta, David Rochat, Jay Saunders, and Terry Smith

October 2014