

A CRY FOR SUMMER

By Jet van Heijnsbergen

Tuesday, August 14, **Maria Henry** from SXM came to do a presentation of the 'Cry for Summer' program. Ms. Henry is Head of Policy Epidemiology and Prevention Unit of the Sector Health Care.

The program is based on the book **A Cry for Summer** by Susan Haynes-Elcock. It is a wonderfully illustrated children's book that tells the story of an 8 year-old boy with HIV. The book sensitively and effectively introduces its young readers to the issues that surround HIV/AIDS in our Caribbean community.

The goal of the teachers program is to introduce younger kids to the topic, to stimulate parental involvement and start an open discussion to tackle stigma and discrimination.

Ms. Henry introduced the teachers to a possible module of their curriculum, fitting in the education area of Physical Education & Healthy Lifestyle.

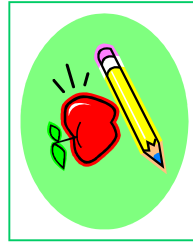
She showed how the teachers can contribute to raising awareness, and talk comfortably about the topic. Booklets will be made available to the school by **ASGS**.



Alise Hassell and **Carl Bun-camper** opened the sessions.

Picture by Dave Levenstone

Further training for the teachers will be provided. Parents will also be invited to cooperate.



TO ALL PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN THE
LAURA LINZEY DAYCARE CENTER &
SACRED HEART PRIMARY SCHOOL

FOUNDATION BASED EDUCATION



INNOVATIONS BUREAU SABA
416-3809

fbe_saba@yahoo.com

www.fbe-saba.com

INFORMATION BROCHURE 54

AUGUST 2007

WELCOME BY COMMISSIONER CHRIS JOHNSON

As your new **Commissioner of Education** it is my honor to welcome you back for the 2007 – 2008 school year.

There is no doubt that this year will offer many **new challenges** for parents and you not only as a student, but also as a young person in the community. No matter how many new bridges you have to cross, always remember that you are an important part of Saba's society and its future.

There have been a number of **developments** in the past six weeks which will affect parents and students both in the upcoming year and in the long term. As Commissioner I have been approached by many people in the educational field to assist in the creation of a **Mediation Center**. This will be a place where help will be provided in many different forms for a number of reasons. I would also like to ask that you consider it a place where you can go to get help for any type of problems that may arise. Consider it a place of refuge if need be.

One of the long term goals I have is to bring the **technical stream** of our secondary school back up to par. For years our school system has been lacking in a sound technical branch and this needs to be resolved in the near future. This can once again be a source of pride for our island when done in the right way.

In closing I would once again wish you all the best for the year and all the success possible.

At times things may seem difficult, but always remember, **you -the students- are the future of Saba**, and the aspect of a bright tomorrow creates the value of today.

FUNCTION OF THE INNOVATIONS BUREAU

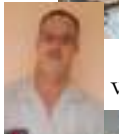
The Innovations Bureau received as task from the Executive Council to develop the project plans and secure funding to develop and implement Foundation Based Education (FBE) on Saba. Our (part-time) staff consists of:



Sharon Oleana, Secretary, who makes sure our guests arrive on time, brochures are printed and nobody misses an appointment.



Alida Heilbron, Bookkeeper, takes care of paying the bills and makes sure our office and Government get reimbursed.



Sam Belmar, Organizational Developer, who has the task to execute quality care in teaching as well as learning.



Jet van Heijnsbergen, Task Manager, who writes the project plans and budgets all innovative activities.

Our task entails that we provide the **Laura Linzey Daycare Center** and the **Sacred Heart School** with materials, training and facilities to become schools defined by:

- A child-centered approach;
- Allowing all children can learn;
- Where subjects are taught in themes;
- Where involvement of parents is stimulated.

Our FBE teachers have to follow 1 more training module (English) to obtain their certificate for cycle I. The caregivers will be trained in the High/Scope program during the course of this year (www.highscope.com).

The **Innovations Bureau** also facilitates the process of making an **Education Policy** for Saba.

Monday, August 13, we've met to complete our preparations and plan a **symposium** for which all of you will be invited.

WEBSITE AIDS SUPPORT GROUP

The **AIDS Support Group Saba** (ASGS) has launched a website on Saturday, August 11.

After the opening by Chairperson **Carl Buncamper**, web designer **Malachy Magee** walked us through the complete site.

Congratulations and speeches were given by **Dr. Cornelius de Weever**, representing the Chamber of Commerce and **Suzette Moses**, Secretary of the Sint Maarten AIDS Foundation.

*Suzette Moses
picture by Dave Levenstone*



The site contains much useful information, such as:

- About HIV/AIDS: diagnosis, stigma and treatment;
- Educational activities for both schools;
- Global developments;
- Local and international links;
- Medical breakthroughs.

Please, check out:

www.aidssupportgroupsaba.org



Board of the AIDS Support Group Saba