

Caribbean Diabetic Footcare Project October 2010 -

12 Islands involved - Truly building communities and bridging continents

Continuing Progress - and news of the continuing progress of our Diabetic Footcare Programme aimed at reducing the risk of amputation caused through Diabetic Foot Ulcers.

The number of Caribbean islands which have been and will be involved in these very important projects is now 12. To date we have completed 8 programmes with 4 more being planned. How many legs have we saved - countless - but we know for a fact that the level of amputations on the islands where our Diabetic Footcare programme has been held has been dramatically reduced, up to 70%, making huge savings in the social and health care costs in the Caribbean. These programmes are designed to train doctors and nurses in the up to date treatment of Diabetic Foot Ulcers.

Exciting news - Confirmation has been received that both the Matching Grants for St Kitts and Antigua have been approved and will be started in 2011. Two D1100 clubs are considering leading the Matching Grant applications and the Step by Step programmes on Dominica and Grenada. The International Diabetes Federation Step by Step faculty led by Dr Kristein Van Aker worked on St Lucia and Barbados in July and completed their second visit to British Virgin Islands and Sint Maarten in October. Data collection on these 4 Islands is ongoing. The Sole Savers Diabetic Footcare projects on Montserrat and Nevis were completed at the end of 2009 with grateful thanks to Canadian Podiatrists Melanie Atkinson and Tracy Oliver.

Diabetes Awareness - The Diabetic Footcare programmes are not only about treating the diabetic foot, just as important is making people aware of the threats that diabetes brings such as heart disease, sight problems and ulcers leading to amputation etc.



Our first project on Tobago and Trinidad is continuing under the excellent leadership of Dr Maxwell Adeyemi of the Rotary Club of Tobago Southwest. Rotarian Maxwell and the Rotary Club of Tobago West are doing astounding work on Tobago promoting Diabetes Awareness during the week

leading up to World Diabetes Day on November 14th. There will be screening clinics for Diabetes and clinics for Eyetesting as well as promoting a 5K walk for Diabetes.

Projects Completed

Trinidad and Tobago - Rotary club of Tobago and Tobago South West D7030 with Rotary Club of Ledbury.

Montserrat - Rotary Club of Montserrat D7030 and Rotary Club of Ledbury D1100.

Nevis - Rotary Club of Nevis D7030 and Rotary Club of Ledbury D1100

St Lucia - Rotary Club of Gros Islet D7030 and World Diabetes Foundation funds together with many UK Rotary Clubs.

Barbados - Rotary Club of Barbados South D7030 and World Diabetes Foundaton funds together with UK Rotary Clubs and the Rotary Club of West Ottawa D7040.

British Virgin Islands - Rotary Club of Road Town D7020 and Rotary Club of Gloucester Severn D1100.

Sint Maarten - Rotary Club of St Maarten D7020 and Rotary Club of Gloucester Severn D1100.

Projects Planned

St Kitts - Rotary club of Liamuiga D7030 and Rotary Club of Lichfield St Chad D1060.

Antigua - Rotary Club of Antigua and Rotary Club of Central Chester County D7450.

Dominica - Rotary Club of Dominica D7030 and a D1100 Rotary Club.

Grenada - Rotary Club of Grenada East and a D1100 Rotary Club.

Thanks - Thank you to all the Rotary Clubs and Rotary International who have given their time and money to support these Diabetic Footcare Programmes. We are extremely grateful for the support of the International Diabetes Federation and Dr Karel Bakker (Chair, International Working Group on the Diabetic Foot) and the Step by Step faculty who give their time free to lead these programmes.

Help required - More Caribbean Islands are asking to learn more about the treatment for the Diabetic Foot and host a Step by Step Programme. Will your Rotary Club help by leading a Matching Grant or by helping another Club with the donation of funds?

World Diabetes Day November 14th You can see a picture of the Ledbury Market House in 2008 by clicking on <http://bit.ly/MClwI>. This year we are going higher and lighting Ledbury Church Steeple blue and setting up Diabetes Awareness displays in the local doctor's surgery.

For more information contact -

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