

Communi-**clik**

Breaking News from Florida's International Volunteer Agency



NOVEMBER 2004

**BEN FLEMING, FAVACA STAFF VETERAN, RETURNS TO COLLEGE
GRENADA MISSION EXPLORES RECOVERY PRIORITIES
BARBADOS PRISONERS BENEFIT FROM DRUG REHAB
FAVACA, AMERICAS RELIEF TEAM RECOGNIZED
BAHAMAS EXPANDS REACH OF FIRST RESPONDERS**

BEN FLEMING, FAVACA STAFF VETERAN, RETURNS TO COLLEGE

Ben Fleming joined FAVACA in 1997 as an administrative assistant and leaves FAVACA as director of programs at year's end. He is enrolled in the Masters program at the Florida State University School of Information Studies. Ben, a fluent Spanish-speaker, studied in Spain, served as a river-rafting guide in Ecuador, school teacher and interpreter in Colombia, and construction worker in Nicaragua. During his FAVACA career Ben placed more than 250 volunteer-consultants throughout the Caribbean and Central America.

GRENADA MISSION EXPLORES RECOVERY PRIORITIES

FAVACA President Julieta Valls, with staff support from Demian Pasquarelli and disaster recovery volunteer Alan Woolwich, Senior Planner with the Brevard County Planning and Zoning Office, met with government officials in Grenada, November 16-18, 2004. The meetings were facilitated by Grenada Honorary Consul-General Richard A. Nixon. The team offered training and technical assistance in traffic planning, building codes, water systems, waste management, electronic archives, and health issues. Grenada officials responded immediately with a request for help in stress and grief counseling.

BARBADOS PRISONERS BENEFIT FROM DRUG REHAB

The rehabilitation of incarcerated drug users is an important step toward reducing substance abuse at a national level. Over six years ago Tessa Chaderton-Shaw, manager of the Barbados [National Council on Substance Abuse \(NCSA\)](#) recognized this reality and sought to initiate a program within the prison system. FAVACA responded in 1998, 2000 and 2004 with technical assistance to help establish the Inmate Drug Rehabilitation Counseling Program (IDRC) at Glendary Prison. Recently, Chaderton-Shaw requested an independent evaluation of the IDRC. Lead volunteer Jonathan Lofgren, vice president, [Operation PAR](#), a drug and alcohol addiction treatment program in St. Petersburg, conducted an evaluation that pronounced the program in good health, enjoying an impressive 90 percent success rate. According to Chaderton-Shaw: "This little project, driven by volunteers, is now a core component of the prison's overall rehabilitation effort. FAVACA helped shape this institution to make it what it has become."

FAVACA, AMERICAS RELIEF TEAM RECOGNIZED

At a Miami reception December 1, Florida FTAA President Jorge Arrizurieta saluted the efforts of the Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas, and [Americas Relief Team](#), in recognition of Florida's relief efforts for Jamaica, Grenada, the Cayman Islands, the Bahamas, Haiti and the Dominican Republic after the recent devastating hurricanes. Florida FTAA, (Free Trade Area of the Americas) Inc. is the private-public entity led by Governor Jeb Bush to promote Florida as the site of the Permanent Secretariat of the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

Speakers at the reception included FAVACA President Julieta Valls; Ambassador Charles E. Cobb, Chairman of Florida FTAA; the Honorary Consul-General of Grenada Richard A. Nixon, and the Consul-General of Jamaica Ricardo Allicock. Major General Richard Mentemeyer of the US Southern Command also attended.

BAHAMAS EXPANDS REACH OF FIRST RESPONDERS

The Commonwealth of the Bahamas consists of hundreds of islands and uninhabited keys spread across miles of the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Florida. Many of the smaller islands such as Exuma, Andros and Eluthera are sparsely populated by small fishing villages. This presents challenges in responding to medical emergencies for the National Emergency Medical Services based in Nassau. It is impractical to have trained professionals in every location but necessary to have a minimal level of pre-hospital emergency services available. In response Paul Newbold, field director of the National Emergency Medical Services in the Public Health Authority, has a goal of training 10 Medical First Responder (MFR) Instructors who would provide training in basic life support to far-flung communities. FAVACA Fire-fighter/EMT volunteer Captain Wayne Watts, Green Cove Springs, conducted the training in Nassau November 21-28, 2004. Watts is a certified EMT instructor in Florida and provided a 40 hour course to

equip the 17 participants with the necessary training techniques in order to reach the ultimate goal of training 600 new first responders.

FAVACA - The Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas

Tallahassee Office

**1310 N. Paul Russell Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
850 410 3100**

favaca@favaca.org

Miami Office

**1330 S.W. 22nd Street, Suite 207
Miami, Florida 33145
305 377 5500**

favaca@favaca.org

Promoting social and economic development in the Caribbean
and the Americas through volunteer service.

www.favaca.org



The Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas (FAVACA) is a non-profit organization established in 1982. FAVACA was founded in the belief that Florida's future is interwoven with that of our Caribbean neighbors. The organization's mission is the improvement of social and economic conditions in the Caribbean and Central America through volunteer service. FAVACA provides technical assistance and training through a diverse combination of federal, private and State of Florida funding sources. To date, more than 1,200 volunteer missions to 29 nations and territories of the region have been completed. A wide variety of training is offered in health and social issues, agriculture, education, environment, disaster mitigation, women's leadership, capacity building and more.