2nd Annual Nightingale Ball

Under the Distinguished Patronage of
Ms. Cheryl Bain, Principal Nursing Officer

Saturday, May 24, 2003
Royal Oasis Resort, Holiday Inn SunSpree
Message From...

MINISTER OF HEALTH
Dr. Marcus Bethel

It is my pleasure to greet all nurses throughout the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, as we celebrate Nurses Month 2003, under the theme, "Nurses Always There For Families: Fighting AIDS Stigma, Caring For All."

Many of you confront the devastating reality of the HIV/AIDS pandemic each day. You routinely care for victims and struggle to maintain your strength in the face of great difficulty. We salute your courage, your expertise and your compassion.

The HIV epidemic has created a terrible burden for millions of individuals, families and communities worldwide. Relieving the suffering requires improved health care, better access to treatments, more vigorous prevention efforts, more effective social outreach and support for those most vulnerable, particularly orphans.

However, we recognize that stigma and discrimination block the march forward against HIV/AIDS. They fuel the HIV/AIDS epidemic by creating a culture of secrecy, silence, ignorance, blame, shame and victimization. Stigma prevents communities from addressing HIV/AIDS with the appropriate Health Care services or legal and educational strategies. What stops them is HIV prejudice. And all that will stop HIV prejudice is speaking openly about the facts.

Some people with AIDS are being denied basic rights such as food or shelter, and dismissed from jobs they are perfectly fit to perform. They may be shunned by their community, or most tragic of all, by their own family.

The fear of stigma leads to silence, and when it comes to fighting AIDS, silence is death. It suppresses public discussion about AIDS, and deters people from finding out whether they are infected. It can cause people – whether a mother breastfeeding her child or a sexual partner reluctant to disclose their HIV status – to risk transmitting HIV, rather than attract suspicion that they might be infected.

But whatever laws and regulations are adopted, the most powerful weapons against stigma and silence are the voices of the world's people speaking up about AIDS. By continuing to fight AIDS stigma and caring for all, nurses will be leading the way in breaking down the walls of stigma and silence.

On behalf of the Government and people of The Bahamas, I salute all nurses throughout the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, for the invaluable contributions which you make, on a daily basis to the care and safety of persons in this vulnerable group and the nation as a whole.

Marcus C. Bethel
THE PARISHES OF

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Proudly Salutes our Nurses

Mrs. Martha Laing E/N
Ms. Dillis Green E/N
Mrs. Anna Demeritte E/N
Mr. Julian Demeritte E/N
Ms. Kayla Stuart R/N
(Hospital Nurse of the Year 2002 – 2003)

From

Father Reginald Demeritte,
Deacon Jeffery Hollingsworth,
Officers, Members & Parishioners

We Love You!!!
On behalf of the Board and Staff of the Public Hospital Authority, I congratulate you on the hosting of your Annual Nightingale Ball.

Your theme, "Nurses Always There For Families: Fighting AIDS Stigma, Caring for All", is most timely, as the HIV/AIDS epidemic has proven to be overwhelming to the healthcare system, socially and to the nation. You are aware that the stigma of HIV/AIDS has created a culture of secrecy, silence, ignorance, blame, shame and victimization. This new, but unwanted culture, can hinder the ability of health care workers to address the issues effectively. The stigma can also lead to discrimination, which has often led to loss of jobs, broken relationships, social ostracism, violence and unfortunately, missed opportunities for treatment. As stated by Derek Bodell, of the organization 'AIDS Trust' - "as people with HIV are living longer and healthier lives, it is vital that they live without the fear of discrimination." The involvement of family and their communities is a meaningful way of fighting this new culture and breaking down walls. Highlighting the role of the family during your month of activities, is indeed an excellent way of reaching out to persons who are closest to the victims of this disease, and a means of utilizing an untapped, invaluable resource to fight this unwanted culture.

Tonight’s event demonstrates to the community your commitment to fostering an environment of togetherness. Is shows that while a nurse is a committed professional, she is also able to balance her life with some relaxation. In our community, nurses are known for their untiring commitment to the well-being of the population. It is this commitment that has assisted the nursing profession to grow in the academic and clinical arenas, as well as in the community. Indeed, nurses in The Bahamas have long been able to meet the standards of local, regional and international bodies.

I applaud each and every one of you for your hard work and dedication to the delivery of quality care throughout Grand Bahama and the Northern Region.

I wish the Committee every success as it hosts this ball and all other events, in recognition of International Nurses Month, 2003.

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The Grand Bahama Health Services Executive Management Team take this opportunity to applaud you our Nurses, for a successful month of activities applicable to this year’s theme for International Nurses Month “Nurses Always There For Families: Fighting AIDS Stigma, Caring for all”.

Your schedule of events, is a clear indication of your commitment to the improvements of family values and family health care services throughout the island. Knowing the scarcity of manpower in the Nursing Department; you all continue to rise to the challenge, always putting your “best foot” forward.

As we participate in this our Second Annual Nightingale Ball in grand style-in recognition of Nurses Month and a celebration of formalized Nursing services in The Bahamas – we can also foresee other great things to come, as you have demonstrated that you can achieve anything.

The Nursing services at Grand Bahama Health Services have always provided exemplary services to the people of Grand Bahama through well co-ordinated Hospital and Community Nursing Services. The level of confidence held by our people reflect your continued visibility in our institutions – “Nurse Always There For Families.”

We ask that God continues to bless us with your support and that together, we continue to plan and introduce measures that will foster improvements in Nursing careers and services in our community.

Sharon Williams
“Stimulating, encouraging and promoting affordable home ownership”

Joins

The Nurses Recognition Committee
In Congratulating all Nurses
As they focus on their theme
“Nurses Always There For Families:
Fighting AIDS Stigma, Caring For All”

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The month of May has been proclaimed Nurses Month by our Prime Minister and traditionally, we pause to recognize the contributions made by our well-deserving nurses.

This year’s theme for International Nurses Day, “Nurses Always There For Families: Fighting AIDS Stigma, Caring For All” implies that nurses are the main primary Health Care providers to families including the marginalized such as persons with HIV/AIDS. Therefore we have a significant role to play in the fight to reduce the affects of the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS.

It also reminds us of that part of our Nursing Code of Ethics which dictates that the fundamental responsibility of the nurse is fourfold: to promote health, prevent illness, restore health and alleviate suffering.

I take this opportunity to express sincere appreciation and salute all nurses in the Grand Bahama Health Services for their commitment, dedication and invaluable contributions to the Health Care system of our nation.

Let us all continue to be role models in our work performance, professional decorum and be the professionals that we are.

Congratulations and best wishes are extended to the honorees and the organizing team of this Second Annual Nightingale Ball.

May God richly bless you and your families.

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Message From...

THE PRINCIPAL NURSING OFFICER, GRAND BAHAMA HEALTH SERVICES
Ms. Cheryl Bain

Congratulations to all Nurses on the Second Annual Nightingale Ball. This special night was designed with all of you in mind, yes the splendour! the grandeur! and the extravagance. Nursing is a profession that spans twenty four hours suggesting the need for complete, well rested bodies to perform the numerous multifaceted tasks. This type of ambiance enables you the Nurses to allow your minds, bodies, and souls to float away to another experience of pure tranquility and relaxation.

Not only are you ball queens and kings, but individuals for all seasons. Season to counsel, season to educate, season to motivate, and season to “Always Be There.” Nurses, you are well equipped and able to weather the various seasons.

It gives me great pleasure to publically announce and recognize, Mrs. Deborah Smith, The Bahamas First National Trained Clinical Nurse for the year 2002 – 2003. Nurse Smith you are a prime example of weathering the storm, and the Nurses of the Grand Bahama Health Services admire your inner strength and beauty.

Nurses Yvonne Clarke and Laura Jones are the institutional winners for 2003, and both are contesting the National titles. Be assured that Grand Bahama is in the Northern Bahamas and the north is associated with the dwelling place of God. Where God resides is victory! Victory denotes the ability to conquer, should I say more!

I salute the Nurses Recognition Committee for creating such an atmosphere that encourages social development and needs fulfillment. Two elements that are associated with productivity are self actualization, pivot linkages to stability of tenure and staff satisfaction.

Enjoy this pleasurable occasion and God's blessings for all future endeavors.

Cheryl Bain
Congratulations

Andrea Beharie, Joan Bowe, 
Ria Celestin, Vera Curtis, Edith Gardiner, 
Stephanie Gittens, Christine Higgs, Brenda Rahming 
Sheila Kemp, Terrie Rolle, Petra Russell 
Daphne Roxbury and Billy Nasmyth-Miller

On behalf of the Parish Family of Mary, Star of The Sea, 
We wish to extend to you our warmest congratulations 
As you take centrestage along with your colleagues 
For your outstanding contributions to 
The profession of Nursing here in The Bahamas

From 
The Pastor, Staff and Fellow Parishioners at 
Mary, Star of The Sea
The Nursing profession is the key resource in Health Care. We are committed to caring for all.

Wherever nurses work, in schools, hospitals, clinic communities, plants or private sectors, the focus is always family health. Our goal is to promote health, prevent disease, care for and rehabilitate the community.

As we celebrate this honourable and noble profession under the theme “Nurses Always There For Families; Fighting AIDS Stigma Caring For All;” nurses undoubtedly are leading the way in breaking down the barriers of the stigma attached to HIV/AIDS.

We take this opportunity to salute nurses nationally and internationally and to recommit ourselves to providing quality care in our community,

Karen A.D. Woodside
The Parish of The Ascension Family
Lucaya/Grand Bahama

salutes

All members of the Nursing profession
especially:

Sister Karen Woodside, Nurse Joan Bowe-McKay
Nurse Sonia Briggs-Nesbitt, Nurse Sharon Kemp
Nurse Heather Dillet, Nurse Vernita Johnson &
Nurse Sandra Mortimer-Russell (Deputy Hospital Administrator)

during

Nurses’ Month 2003

Congratulation, best wishes, we are proud of you and we love you!

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Mr. Spurgeon Smith
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Highest Commendations

To Our Beloved Nurses
Mrs. Sandra Davis
Mrs. Lorna Munroe
Mrs. Agatha Vincent
Mrs. Stephanie Small
Mrs. Lyndette Curtis
Mrs. Elizabeth Perre
Mrs. Nicoya Parkinson

The Occasion of the celebration of Nurses Month
In all things we wish them God's speed
Shalom!
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Congratulations & Best Wishes

To

Mrs. Karen Woodside

From

DR. CLIVE GASKINS & STAFF

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Congratulations

To

Nurse Paulette Carter

You may not hear it every day
But, you are appreciated in every way.
You are our #1 Nurse
We extend best wishes to you
And may God bless you always.

From:
your parents: Samuel & Ivy Carter
sisters, especially: Melissa; brother, nieces,
nephew and your special friend: Trevor Cooper

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WELCOME & INTRODUCTION OF MC..................Mrs. Karen Woodside NO.1
(Coordinator)

BRIEF REMARKS.............................................Ms. Cheryl Bain
Principal Nursing Officer
Mr. Herbert Brown
Managing Director – Public Hospitals Authority
Mr. Donald McCartney
1st Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Public Service
Sen. Hon. Dr. Marcus Bethel
Minister of Health

* DINNER *

ENTERTAINMENT

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

ENTERTAINMENT

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

VOTE OF THANKS

* DANCING *
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Keep up the good work

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TO

Patricia Edgecombe
NURSING OFFICER II

Congratulations on your promotion (belated)
Our Nurse
May God continue to bless you

From

AUNT DORITH & FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS

TO

An outstanding Nurse and a great Mother

Patricia Edgecombe NO II

From

your son Gevaugh

With love, God bless you
We Salute

Our
Special Nightingale
Edith Gardiner

For your years of dedication
at work and at home

Love
OSWALD, OJ & OLETHA

The Women’s League
of
Mary, Star of The Sea Catholic Church

is delighted to extend
Heartiest Congratulations

to our
BELOVED NURSES

Mrs. Edith Gardiner & Mrs. Theresa Rolle
Congratulations

to

NURSING OFFICER II

PATRICIA EDGECOMBE

Keep up the good work

from

Dajour & David

May God continue to bless you

---

Best Wishes

to

The Nurses Appreciation Committee and the G.B. Nightingales

from

Dr. & Mrs. Paul H. Ward

and the Management & Staff of

ST. JUDE’S MEDICAL CENTRE
The Pro-Cathedral of Christ The King

extends

Congratulations

To all Nurses on International Nurses’ Day
Celebrating 100 years of Nursing in The Bahamas

especially:
Ellen Major, Debbie Sands, Patricia Edgecombe,
Vivian Brathwaite, Ione Henley, Margaret Meeres,
Anna Cooper, Kylie Moore, Helena Sawyer, Roshan Pinder,
Pearline Burrows & Elizabeth Watkins-Knowles

We wish you God’s blessing as you continue to care
for others and pray that He may strengthen you in all your endeavors.

The St. Stephen’s Anglican Church Family

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to

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The Nightingales on their Second Annual Ball

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Congratulations!!!

Hospital Nurse of the year 2002-2003

Kayla Zinobia Marie Stuart R/N

Granddaughter, niece, godchild and cousin

From: Mr. and Mrs. Alonza Russell, Iva, Augusta, Ralph Lorraine, Annastasia, Alonza Jr., Viina, Vincent, Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Williams, Derek, Demetrius, Demetria, Welly, Felicia, Roxy, Davida, Terrell, Davisha, Tamieka, Tamaira, Yul, Perez, Alexandre, Jermaine, Aloniqua, A.J., Cletus and Andre.

Mother

You have sacrificed yourself for our safety. Now that you have allowed me to earn my wings. All I ask is that you take this opportunity to dust off your own wings and fly.

Keep on achieving. We are proud of you.

Chantil, Alyiah, Aaron and Sean
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to our
Nightingale Nurse
Pam Ferguson
As she celebrates 100 years of Professional Nursing in The Bahamas
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from
Kendal &
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Let the light of Christ continue to burn with in you; as you care for his people

Congratulations

Hospital Nurse of The Year 2002-2003
Kayla Z.M. Stuart R/N

From your parents:
Rosemary, Livingston;
brother: Lamar; niece Lakay and
Sonia and Charles Bain
WE LOVE YOU!!

Hospital Nurse of the Year
2002-2003
Ms. Kayla Z. Stuart

From: Mr. and Mrs.
Patrick
and Genevieve
Adderley;
Sharmean, P.J., Jamaal
and lil Anthony!

Dr. Paul Hunt and
staff

Congratulations
The “Nightingales”
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Second Annual
Nightingale Ball

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Nurse Agatha Vincent

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From your entire family

Horray!
To my Goddie

Kayla Z. Stuart
Hospital Nurse of The Year 2002-2003

from
Neisha

Congratulations
Florence Nightingales
from

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Congratulations
Nurse Laura Jones
Nurse Yvonne Clarke

Keep up the good work
And God's blessings in the Nationals

from

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DaD Publications

Congratulations
Nurse Veronica Wilmott

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Keep up the Good work
Laura

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Congratulations and
Best Wishes

TO A WONDERFUL SISTER
NURSE VERONICA WILMOTT

Just to let you know
Today and always,
how much you mean to
those who love you.

From
Craig, Bernadette and
Ernestine
A Nurse's Pledge

In full knowledge of the obligations I am undertaking, I promise to care for the sick with all the skill and understanding I possess, without regard to race, creed, colour, politics or social status. Sparing no effort to conserve life, to alleviate suffering and to promote health. I will respect at all times the dignity and religious belief of the patients under my care. Holding confidence all personal information entrusted to me and refraining from any action which might endanger life or health. I will endeavour to keep my professional knowledge and skill at the highest level and to give loyal support and co-operation to all members of the health team. I will do my utmost to honour the international code of nursing ethics and to uphold the integrity of the nurse.

A Nurse's Prayer

As I care for my patients today.

Be there with me O Lord I pray,

Make my words kind —it means so much,

And in my hands

Place Your healing touch.

Let Your love shine through all that I do,

So those in need may hear and feel You.

Nightingale Ball Committee 2003

Karen Woodside NO.I
Ernestine Brennen NO. II
Pamela Whylll-Ferguson TCN
Deborah Smith Sr. TCN
Gretal Curry Sr. TCN
Mary Delevaux Sr. TCN
Nicoya Parkinson NO.II

Institutional Nurse of the Year 2003 Honorees

Agatha Vincent TCN
Laverne Sawyer RN
Patricia Hanchell NO.II
Doretta Culmer RN
Laura Jones TCN
Yvonne Clarke R/M
Sheryl Carey R/N

Institutional Nurse of The Year Winners

2002
DEBORAH SMITH, TCN
National Winner

2002
JACQUELINE MCCARTNEY, R/N

2003
LAURA JONES, TCN

2003
YVONNE CLARKE, R/N
“A successful person is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks that others throw at him.”
— David Brink

Bishop Godfrey, Lady Iris and the jubilant members of 
**St. John's Jubilee Cathedral**
are proud to salute

**Principal Nursing Officer Cheryl Bain**
for her accomplishments in the Nursing profession.
May you remain steadfast and focused as you continue to build

“For skillful and godly wisdom shall enter into your heart, and knowledge shall be pleasant to you.”
*Proverbs 2:10*