

A multi-agency project, the **Possibility Programme** was implemented in 2001 by the Office of the Prime Minister, as one of the interventions through the Programme Coordinating and Monitoring Unit (PCMU), the unit with responsibility for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the National Poverty Eradication Programme. However, commencing April 2008, implementation of the Programme was transferred to the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture. Administration of the programme continues to rest with the independent board and numerous partner agencies, including the St. Andrew Parish Church, HEART Trust/NTA, YMCA, National Council on Drug Abuse, St. Patrick's Foundation, Kingston Restoration Company Ltd., the LEAP Centre and the Rotary Club of St. Andrew, the Jamaica Defence Force to name a few.



Vision Statement

“A prosperous and caring Jamaica where all children and youths have the opportunity to maximize their potential and make a meaningful contribution to society”

To find out more about the Possibility Programme, please call:

The Care Centre at 906-3335
The Skills Training/Employment Centre at 920-3941
The MYSC at 978-7881



Mission Statement

“Through an ongoing programme of rehabilitation, education and skills training, this programme will integrate at risk children and youths into the society, thereby increasing their chances of becoming productive citizens”

What is the Possibility Programme?

The Possibility Programme is a multi-agency project aimed at providing the necessary resources and support for children and youths who are on the street, to better improve their life chances

The Objectives of the Programme are:

- ◆ To develop a coordinated and proactive approach to the social problems of street children and at risk youths.
- ◆ To remove children and youth who wipe windcreens at intersections and have them enrolled in a project of skills training, academic learning, apprenticeship and job placement.
- ◆ To stem the flow of children on the streets.
- ◆ To assist in the reintegration of children and youth with their families and/or schools where possible
- ◆ To provide accommodation for male children/youth that are registered in a structured programme, but have no suitable alternative place of residence, or have ran away because of difficult circumstances in the home and/or in the community and or at risk.

Components of the Programme

The Programme is comprised of four (4) components (Interventions Centres to address the challenges of the target group): **The Care Centre; Skills Employment & Training Centre; Annual Re-socialization Camps; and a Youth Hostel.**

The Care Centre - located at 2 Ambrook Lane, Kingston 10, serves as an intake, diagnostic and referral location for the Programme. The Centre is intended to be the first point of contact with the target population. After assessing the boys who enlist in the programme, the Centre connects them with the relevant agencies that will provide a range of services to ensure their spiritual, emotional, and physical well being. Additionally, the facility offers support services to the parents or legal guardians of the children who enlists. The Care Centre also offers remedial Mathematics, English, Social Studies and Physical Education, as well as provide nutritious meals for the children/youth.

The Skills Training & Employment Centre - located at 4 Hope Road, Kingston 10 offers a multidimensional training programme for participants. The HEART/NTA is a key partner in this segment of the programme. The youths are currently being trained in shoe repair, shoe making, general leather care, remedial education, life skills, conflict resolution, customer service and civic responsibilities.

Devotion conducted by Abba Rescue Mission serves the spiritual needs of the young men while life coping skills are addressed by a Social Worker. Participants engage in apprenticeship training at garages, furniture shops, food processing plants and have been trained and offered jobs by private sector companies.



The Re-socialization Camp - This aspect of the programme is conducted in partnership with the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF) and is held at their New Castle facility. The Camp provides specific programmes to assist the children/youths in coming to grips with, and controlling anti-social behaviours so that they may be better able to maximize their potential, while effectively contributing to the society. Participants are also encouraged to take part in sporting activities to help them in fostering better social skills.



The Possibility Hostel - Children/youths who live in violent communities or face difficult situations are housed at this facility. An entrepreneurial component has been introduced at the Hostel, which includes chicken rearing, ornamental fish breeding, and the development of vegetable gardens. This will aid in sustaining the Hostel as well as providing skills for the young men who reside there. The Hostel functions as a family home and each resident must attend school or a training programme daily.

