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PRESS RELEASE



## COCONUT BAY BEACH RESORT & SPA PRESENTS COCOLAND CARES AN INVESTMENT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Coconut Bay Beach Resort & Spa is pleased to introduce Cocoland Cares. This project is a major national initiative which involves a significant investment in Early Childhood Education and the children of Saint Lucia. Under the Cocoland Cares project One Hundred and Twenty Six (126) Pre Schools across the island will each benefit from the donation of packages which will include high quality learning material designed to stimulate and support motto, social, literacy and language skills development in our nation's children.

The Cocoland Cares Project was launched at a ceremony held, 2:00, Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at Coconut Bay Beach Resort & Spa Bougainvillea Conference Room. The ceremony was addressed by Hotel General Manager Mr. Mark Hawken, Hotel Owner, Mr. Butch Hendrickson and Minister of Education, Dr. Hon. Robert Lewis.

The project implementation schedule will include packaging of learning materials by hotel management and staff on April 27<sup>th</sup> followed by distribution to Early Childhood Education Centres in the north and south of the island on April 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Mr. Hendrickson, owner of the Hotel explains his hope that this investment can go some way towards ensuring that our children are better equipped to face an increasingly demanding world of work. "It is my wish that through Cocoland Cares, Coconut Bay can impact positively on the process of early childhood education; and that the children of Saint Lucia can benefit from an early and firm grounding in terms of those critical skill that they require to make them more effective citizens by way of their contribution to national development".

Cocoland Cares is a firm commitment by management, staff and the owner of the hotel who has determined that this project will be an annual undertaking.