volume 1

# GRANDIFFERENCE AT THE HEART OF PLAYA MAKING A DIFFERENCE





HYATT ZIVA & HYATT ZILARA ROSE HALL
ONGOING DEDICATION TO HELP SUPPORT THE LOCAL COMMUNITY



# PLANTING NEW BEGINNINGS



#### **DIEGO CONCHA**

General Manager Hyatt Ziva & Zilara Rose Hall

"We are painting the hearts of the kids in ways where they can see the signs of hope and opportunity. We're creating an environment where they are connected to sports, they are connected to academics, they understand values and the environment and I think that's the inspiration, that's where it's coming from. An agricultural environment where kids can learn what transformation is all about. I call it planting the seeds. We're planting new beginnings." Granville All Age School is located approximately 45 minutes from the resort town of Montego Bay in the Mountains of St. James and is the primary public school facility that serves this local community that bears its name. With 404 students currently enrolled, the physical appearance of the school was in disarray with many areas in desperate need of repair—until recently.

In October 2015, I received a letter from one of our baristas with a simple request: "Please help support my child's school by donating wire to help build a new fence."

I was new to Jamaica and in search for a community project that the hotel could support. Myself along with the executive team decided to visit the school to gain a better understanding behind the simple request and see what could be done to help.

And we did just that. Starting with the greatest areas for improvement that would have the longest timeframes from start to completion, our team mapped out a two-year plan that outlined specific areas where we could have the most impact.

Following our first meeting with Principal Brown, it became evident that we not only identified a community project but also created a partnership. As a team, we realized we could have a lasting impact on the physical and educational aspects of the students' lives from 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM, MON-FRI.











Following the immediate decision to help, the Rose Hall executive team developed a task force on property spanning multiple departments including managers and non-managers. The goal was straightforward—develop a plan that will impact the students, the structure of the school and the educational and physical development of the students—ultimately resulting in a greater improvement of their overall lives, long term.



"What we have accomplished at this stage, is that we are painting the hearts of the kids in ways where they can see the signs of hope and opportunity. We're going to show the children what they can accomplish if they find the discipline to get there. That, in fact, is an open door to a new world for them."

> — Diego Concha, General Manager, Hyatt Ziva & Zilara Rose Hall













"They have been committed, tenacious, conscientious and all the other words you can think of. They have enhanced our school in such a marvelous way."

— Anne-Marie Brown, Principal Granville All Age School







"It ties in so nicely with our philosophy, as a company we believe if we take care of each other, then we will take care of our guests"

> — Betty Ann Brown, HR Director, Hyatt Ziva & Zilara Rose Hall









"It's a reality check. Going back to the community and having served in certain areas, dealt with certain issues, it makes us aware of what the world is really about."

> — Alex Stadlin, Chief Operating Officer Playa Hotels & Resorts



# AREAS OF FOCUS

The depth and breadth of the project spans both physical education as well as best practices within the classroom. The Rose Hall team has done everything from building a water filtration system to creating a farm to table approach to nutrition and establishing recycling programs for each individual classroom. The team recently built a soccer field and has formed sanctioned boys and girls soccer teams inclusive of supplies and new uniforms. Spanish class has been instituted into the curriculum where it was not present previously and a greenhouse has been built to help cultivate new types of vegetables outside of the traditional garden. The next venture includes the rebuilding of the old Principal's Quarters to create a sick bay for children whose parents cannot pick them up midday when they are ill. Additionally, the team is working on rerouting the drainage systems to prevent flooding during the rainy season and creating a library for the school to help students improve their reading skills.



#### **GRANVILLE 404 PROJECTS INCLUDE:**

- ✓ Creation of a football field
- Curation of a garden and greenhouse
- ✓ Water filtration and irrigation system
- Schoolwide recycling program
- Assistance with school curriculum
- ✓ Build out of a sick bay and principal's quarters
- ✓ Painting and restoration projects
- √ Implementation of counselling services
- Continuous donations of socks and school supplies



#### HOW YOU CAN HELP

While each child has received school supplies and socks throughout the 2016/2017 school year, the support does not stop there. There are many ways employees, industry professionals and guests can help. Below is a list of items that teachers and children welcome. While the school is not a formal 501.3 C establishment, monetary donations are also welcomed as we are raising funds to build a playground for children to enjoy during recess.

- √ No 2. pencils
- ✓ Marble notebooks
- Spiraled notebooks (3 sections preferred)
- ✓ Teaching supplies
- Coloring books
- Crayons
- ✓ Playdough

- Reading books
- Soccer balls
- Children's belts
- ✓ Socks (black, white or navy blue preferred)
- ✓ Hair barrettes for girls (preferably to match school uniform of black, white and navy)















# A&P

## HOW DID THE GRANVILLE 404 PROJECT COME TO BE?

The request for assistance originated with an employee who works for Hyatt Ziva Rose Hall—a previous graduate of Granville All Age School.

## HOW OFTEN DOES THE HYATT ZIVA & HYATT ZILARA TEAM VISIT GRANVILLE?

It depends but sometimes as often as 2-3 times per month depending on what the main focus is at the time.

## DO EMPLOYEES GET COMPENSATED FOR THEIR TIME?

While a certain number of hours are sponsored on the behalf of the company, hourly employees often go above and beyond and dedicate their own time to the project, as well.

# HOW CAN I GO ABOUT DONATING MY TIME DURING AN UPCOMING VISIT?

It's easy, simply contact Dedra, the Human Resources Coordinator for Hyatt Ziva Rose Hall to schedule your trip.

## ARE THERE PARTICULAR SIZES THAT ARE PREFERRED?

The school enrolls children from pre-kindergarten through 8th grade so sizes vary.

#### DO YOU ALLOW GUESTS OR TRAVEL AGENTS TO VISIT GRANVILLE?

The short answer is yes. Ideally, we need advanced notice so we can ensure that the school can accommodate us with minimal disruption to daily activity.

Contact Dedra Brown for additional information and pre-planning.

## CAN GUESTS BRING SUPPLIES WITH THEM DURING A TRIP TO JAMAICA?

Absolutely — it's greatly appreciated.

Any donations can be brought to the front desk with a note stating they are for Granville.





#### **HYATT ZILARA ROSE HALL**

- 234 spacious and stylish suites with panoramic ocean views, including luxurious swim-up suites
- Chic adults-only atmosphere plus full access to all amenities and activities at Hyatt Ziva Rose Hall
- Private airport lounge and complimentary transfers from Sangster International Airport

#### **HYATT ZIVA ROSE HALL**

- 387 spacious all-suite accommodations, including signature swim-up suites, with magnificent views
- KidZ Club offering supervised activities, fun and games for younger guests
- Private airport lounge and complimentary transfers from Sangster International Airport





"What started as a simple letter turned into an ongoing pledge to help a local school in need."

YOU TOO CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Contact Dedra Brown at Dedra.Brown@Hyatt.com for additional information on how you can contribute to the Granville 404 Project during your next vacation!