Fourth Annual Report of the Healthy Caribbean Coalition (HCC)

November 2011 – October 2012

1. The HCC was represented at Mhealth Summit meeting, 5 – 7 December, 2011, Washington, DC at which a poster presentation, titled “A pan-Caribbean mobile phone text advocacy campaign in response to the chronic disease epidemic and in support of the United Nations High Level Meeting (UNHLM) on NCDs”; co-authored by Trevor Hassell, Anselm Hennis, Chris Hassell and Shivonne Johnson was delivered by HCC social media co-ordinator.

2. The Chairman of HCC attended and made a presentation at the World Diabetes Congress, Dubai, 7th December, 2011. The title of the presentation was “How to set up a mobile phone campaign: How to use new media and Web 3.0 for advocacy”.

3. Chairman represented HCC, by invitation at meeting of CARMEN 2012: Transforming NCD Declarations to Actions 7 – 8 May 2012, Brasilia.

4. HCC conducted, by invitation, a “Simultaneous Showcase Panel: Best Practices in Partnering and Multi-stakeholder Approach” at a Pan American Forum on NCDs Meeting, 9th May 2012, Brasilia. The title of the Panel was “Get the Message, Healthy Caribbean Coalition”.

5. The HCC was officially incorporated (registration number 33961) under the Companies Act of Barbados as a Not for Profit Company on the 24th May 2012.

6. Sir George Alleyne, Director Emeritus of PAHO/WHO was named Patron of the HCC, May 2012.

7. The HCC conducted an NCD Prevention and Strategic Planning Workshop for Civil Society Organizations, May 27-29, 2012, titled “Rallying for Action on NCDs”. Workshop was attended by some 104 delegates. The Workshop was sponsored by the World Bank, Jamaica National Health Fund, LIVESTRONG, and PAHO/WHO.

8. A technical report of the NCD Prevention and Strategic Planning Workshop for Civil Society Organizations, May 27-29, 2012, titled “Rallying for Action on NCDs” was produced.

9. A Civil Society Strategic Plan of Action for Prevention & Control of NCDs for countries of the Caribbean community, 2012 -2016, was finalised in which the four strategic goals of the HCC for the next 4 years, namely advocacy, capacity building, enhancing communication and promotion of Mhealth, were highlighted. The plan is available at www.healthycaribbean.org.

10. HCC was accepted as a Non-Governmental Organization in official relations with PAHO for a period of four years at the 150th Session of the Executive Committee held on the 18-22 June, 2012 at the PAHO/WHO.

11. Chairman represented HCC at Joint CARICOM/PAHO NCD Secretariat Planning Meetings, 9-10 July 2012.

12. Prof. Tim Roach delivered “Words of Welcome” at the Opening Ceremony and subsequently made a presentation titled “Mobilising and empowering health NGOs and civil society in response to the NCDs” on behalf of the HCC at the Caribbean Health Summit of the East Caribbean Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, August 2012.
Ms Virginia Asin Oostburg attended as an observer, by invitation, on behalf of the HCC, the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference of the PAHO, 64th Session of the regional Committee for the Americas of the WHO, 17 – 21 September, 2012 at which she read a statement on behalf of the HCC which is available on the HCC website.

HCC supported World Heart Day 2012 (29th September) activities of member organizations; Grenada Heart Foundation, Heart & Stroke Foundation of Barbados, Heart Foundation of Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago Heart Foundation, St Lucia Heart, Lung and Blood Foundation and the Guyana Chest by providing them with financial support for activities, specially produced promotional T Shirts, WHD 2012 pamphlets and educational stickers, and social media support. This project was supported by Medtronic, Caribbean Cardiac Society and the Inter American Heart Foundation.

During the period under review the HCC received funding support from the World Bank, LIVESTRONG, Jamaica National Health Fund, Medtronic, the American Cancer Society and Sagicor.

The Chairman of HCC “extended greetings” during the Official Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception of 27th Cardiology Conference of the Caribbean Cardiac Society, 12 July, 2012, St Lucia.

Dr Lynda Williams, HCC volunteer, attended the 2012 UICC World Cancer Congress, Montreal, Canada and represented HCC at the grantees workshop of the Meet The Targets Programme of the American Cancer Society.

Chairman of HCC attended a Meeting of the Multi-Stakeholder Consortium for Dietary Salt Reduction of the Pan American Forum for Action on NCDs, 28-29 August, 2012, Washington, DC, USA.

Chairman of HCC became a member of the CDC led Hypertension Treatment Planning and Review Group of the “Global Standardization of Hypertension Treatment Initiative”.

HCC hosted a booth at Sagicor Shape Up Health Extravaganza held in Barbados, as part of HCC’s direct participation in, and support for, WHD 2012.

Memorandum of Understanding Signing Ceremony and Press Event was held on the 18th September, 2012, to recognise funding provided by Sagicor to support establishment and staffing of an HCC Secretariat for the period 2012-2015.

HCC secretariat established at the offices of Caribbean Catalyst, River Road, St. Michael, Barbados.

The first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Healthy Caribbean Coalition Inc., was held on the 18th September, 2012. Prof. Trevor Hassell (President), Dr Virginia Asin Oostburg, Ms Deborah Chen, Ms Joanne DeFreitas and Dr Victor Coombs will serve as Directors of the Healthy Caribbean Inc., for the period 2012 – 20014.

The President of the HCC made presentations and was resource person at the St Maarten Cancer Conference 26 -27 October 2012. The opportunity was taken by the President to conduct a capacity building intervention for NGOs in St Maarten.

Ms Maisha Hutton was appointed Manager of HCC to lead on overall planning, administration, human resource management, project management, marketing and PR, financial management, quality control and administrative management of HCC and takes up the position wef 1st November 2012.

- 2012/11/01