



Sagicor

Wise Financial Thinking for Life



- Sir George Alleyne, Director Emeritus, PAHO (Chair)
- Professor Sir Trevor Hassell, President, Healthy Caribbean Coalition
- Dr. the Hon Christopher Tufton MP, Minister of Health, Jamaica
- Dr. Anselm Hennis, Director, Department of Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health, Pan American Health Organization
- His Excellency E. Courtenay Rattray, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations
- Mr. Bent Lautrup-Nielsen, Senior Programme Manager, World Diabetes Foundation
- Other distinguished guests,
- Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a pleasure to be here this morning, to say a few words on behalf of Sagicor Life Inc. I want to welcome all of you to this extremely important gathering of important stakeholders who impact the health and lifestyles of our Caribbean people.

Sagicor's association with the Healthy Caribbean Coalition (HCC) began in late 2010 / early January 2011, soon after I joined the Sagicor Barbados operation. At that time, Sir Trevor met with the Sagicor team to impress upon us, the need for the HCC. I am very happy to say that this HCC Organization has grown immensely since then, with Sir Trevor and Maisha Hutton working way above and beyond the call of duty, to push the cause and to "deliver the goods".

On March 18th, 2011 we joined the HCC in launching an awareness campaign around developing healthier lifestyles, and over the years, we have continued to work with the HCC on other campaigns.

In May 2012, I met with this group right here at the Knutsford Court Hotel and provided some information on how the Sagicor team saw the impact of NCDs on the insurance sector and the wider business community across the region. (Only yesterday Dr. James Hospidales reminded me of some of the points I raised at that time. I wish I could say things looked better from an insurance point of view but sadly, that is not the case.)



On September 18th, 2012 Sagicor formalised its association with the HCC and committed to support the Coalition for a period of 3 years, by signing an MOU at The United Nations House in Barbados. This MOU was then renewed for a further 3 years and I am happy to say that once again in 2018 we have agreed to renew our financial commitment to the HCC.

One of the key objectives to our participation with the HCC was to reduce the level of NCDs across the region and urge our Caribbean people to live a healthier lifestyle. We believed at that time, and still do, that the Private sector had an important part to play in bringing about this change.

So, ladies and gentlemen, my question to you the experts in this area is, **have we achieved that?**

Over the next couple days, I hope to hear the results of the efforts of the last 6 years.

We must all work together in our individual homes, communities, companies, NGOs, the private sector and our individual and collective Governments across CARICOM, to fight the heavy impact NCDs are having on our lives and our societies, both financially and emotionally.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we have the knowledge and the skills to fight this problem and, we must now gather more support from the private sector. We must also force the hands of the political leadership across the region to make the right decisions to help us achieve these goals together.

At Sagicor, we believe we have the People, the Passion and the Purpose to be Sagicor Strong and achieve success.



We have run out of time in our fight against the NCDs; the time is NOW, Ladies and Gentlemen. Within this room today, we have the people, the passion and the purpose to stimulate the necessary discussions. Let us work together over the next few days, to do what needs to be done.

Thank You