

# GUYANA CHRISTIAN CHARITIES (CANADA) INC.

805 Middlefield Road, Unit 5, Scarborough, ON M1V 4Z6 -- Tel. No. 416-293-8622

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GuyanaChristianCharities>

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## GCC PARTICIPATION IN DIALYSIS PROGRAM

Kumar Singh

Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. (GCC) will support and contribute annually with financial assistance to the Dialysis Program of the Doobay Medical Research Centre.

Since 2011, the Doobay Medical Research Centre -- Dialysis Program, located at Annandale, East Coast, Demerara, Guyana, has been offering a high standard of renal care to desperate patients suffering from Kidney Disease. Thousands of dialysis procedures have been performed at a much subsidized rate and in many cases at no cost for the less fortunate patients. The Clinic has been founded by Dr. B. Doobay, who is the President of this Medical Research Clinic.



Doobay Medical Research Centre

Kidney Disease is a major health crisis in Guyana. Renal failure, also known as kidney failure, is a medical condition, in which the kidneys fail to adequately filter waste products from the blood. Dialysis is therefore a treatment that does some of the work done by healthy kidneys.

GCC was contacted by Dr. Doobay to assist with this Dialysis Program and GCC is most pleased to do so financially. Dr. Doobay plans to further extend this much needed service to New Amsterdam, Berbice, and Parika, Essequibo.

Dr. Doobay is most grateful and the following is an extract from his communication to GCC: "This money will give immediate relief to our needy patients and support two more satellite clinics, which will be set up in New Amsterdam and Parika. These clinics will eliminate the long, arduous and costly journey for patients to travel to Annandale for dialysis. May you always be blessed by the Divine and Merciful Lord with your spirit of generosity, love and kindness."

## OUR MISSION

*Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. is a volunteer, non-profit charitable organization, registered in Canada, dedicated to providing aid and assistance to Guyanese organizations, individuals and others in need*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2018-2019)

#### OFFICERS

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer
<b>Dexter Gonsalves</b> 416-293-8622	<b>Kumar Singh</b> 416-498-9962	<b>Pansy Hsan</b> 905-426-6099	<b>Karen Heifa</b> 416-720-6902
DIRECTORS			
<b>Elizabeth Abdool</b> 416-912-6814	<b>Joe Castanheiro</b> 416-286-1956	<b>Stephen Choo-Wing</b> 905-420-2789	<b>Rahana Khan</b> 416-540-5255
<b>Anne Marie Reigber</b> 416-755-6958			
HONORARY DIRECTOR		DESMOND DE BARROS	

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings to all our readers!

Dear Members, Volunteers, Supporters and Friends:

It is hard to believe that Autumn is virtually over and we are already preparing for the Christmas holidays. This past year has been a very active and busy one as usual. The demand for our services is forever present, along with the challenge to support these never ending requests.

I am happy to report that our major ongoing fundraising events, such as the Valentine Dance, the Bake Sale and Food Fair and our Oldies Dances continue to attract widespread community support. Proceeds from these events have kept pace with revenues generated in the previous years. We look forward to a successful and productive year, as we continue to look for ways to improve the quality of life to those in need.

Our members, volunteers and supporters are the backbone of this organization. Without them, we are nowhere. I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to all new members and volunteers. Thanks for being part of our team.

I have also to report on some sadness, as we have lost three of our most devoted member-volunteers, Margaret Niccols, John Gonsalves and Gordon Gonsalves. They have been very dedicated to GCC for many years and their valuable contributions have added to the continuing success of GCC. May their souls rest in peace, as well as those we have all loved and lost.

Again, I would like to close by expressing my sincere appreciation to our members, volunteers and supporters. It is only through your generosity that we are able to continue with the various activities that make a valuable difference in the lives of many.

Please accept my best wishes for a healthy and happy winter. All the very best in the New Year 2019.

God Bless.

Sincerely,

*Dexter Gonsalves*

President



**Together we make a difference**

A team is more than a collection of people. It is a process of give and take.

Barbara Glacel & Emile Robert Jr.

## PACKING & SHIPPING UPDATE



Kumar Singh

The second shipment for this year from Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. will arrive in Guyana on October 15, 2018. This 40 ft. container of donated goods for charitable purposes will arrive in time for distribution before the Christmas Season.

The container consisted of Medical Supplies, toys and games, used clothing, shoes, school supplies, wheelchairs, walkers, food items, bicycles, books, toiletries and household items. These items will be delivered to over 75 charitable organizations, and individuals across Guyana and will surely bring joy and put a smile on so many faces.

Included in the shipment were 7 Ultra Sound Machines for the Ministry of Public Health and St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. These machines will greatly improve the delivery of the much needed medical procedures and services in Guyana.

Our volunteers and members continue to devote their time to collect, sort and pack the donations received from our generous supporters in and around Toronto. Special thanks to the Guyanese diaspora and others for attending our Fundraising Events, which helps to enable GCC to get the funds to pay the freight and packing expenses for the donated items. These funds raised also allow GCC to make financial contributions to a number of charitable organizations in Guyana, delivering much needed services to the less fortunate people there. This year we were also involved with the Dialysis Program delivering this critical medical service to Guyanese. See separate article in this Newsletter.

Since we are approaching the end of 2018, GCC takes this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support. Together we can make a difference to improve the lives of so many in our native country. Please call us if you have any questions. Any suggestions you may have would be welcomed.

Anne Marie Reigber	416-755-6958
Stephen Choo-Wing	905-420-2789
Dexter Gonsalves	416-293-8622
Kumar Singh	416-498-9962

**Merry Christmas to all and Best Wishes for 2019.**



### Drop Off Address For Donations

Century 21 Building, 4544 Shepherd Avenue East (West of McCowan on the North side).

Volunteers and Members pack at this location on **Thursdays**. Starting time for packing is at approximately 10.00 a.m. to about 2.00 p.m.

# ONTARIO VOLUNTEERS' AWARDS

*Congrats!*

*Thank  
you*



The Ontario Volunteer Service Awards recognize volunteers for their continuous years of commitment and service to an organization. Youth volunteers (under the age of 24) are recognized for two or more years of continuous service.

The following members were presented with awards in recognition for their generous contributions to their community through GCC.

Janet King	- 25 years	Fadil (Chubby) Williams	- 5 years
Jean Rutherford	- 25 years	Jacqueline Guy	- 10 years
Desiree Buckley	- 20 years	Pansy Hsan	- 5 years



**Left to Right:** Janet King; Kumar Singh (Vice President-GCC); Mitzi Hunter (MPP, Scarborough-Guildwood); Jacqueline Guy; Jean Rutherford; Dexter Gonsalves (President-GCC), and Desiree Buckley. **Absent:** Pansy Hsan and Fadil (Chubby) Williams.

A big "THANK YOU" goes to FLY JAMAICA for donating two (2) airlines tickets to either Jamaica, Guyana or New York as a raffle prize at GCC's Spring Dance held on May 19, 2018, at the Pickering Recreation Centre.

Congratulations to Ms. Alice Williams who was the lucky winner of this grand prize.



L to R ... A friend receiving the prize on behalf of the Winner Alice Williams, Fly Jamaica's representative Gillian Williams, Elizabeth Abdool and Karen Heifa (GCC members)

Thank you FLY JAMAICA for your on-going support of Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. and in helping to generate funds for the poor and needy in Guyana. Your charitable and outreach efforts are fully recognized and much appreciated by our membership and those in our community. We look forward to a continued relationship with FLY JAMAICA, one which is rewarding to both parties.

## WITH SYMPATHY *Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord*

Members would like to express their sympathy to the families of members, volunteers, donors, supporters and friends of GCC, who have passed since our last newsletter, and in particular:

Anne Abraham Sr. Admirabilis Browne, RSM (Guyana) Edward Chaves Andrew Gomes (Guyana) Gordon Gonsalves John Gonsalves*	Patrick Gonsalves Terence Joseph Gonsalves Thelma Gonsalves Vernon Gonsalves* Margaret Claire Niccols	Arthur Outridge Bishop Benedict Singh (Guyana) Leslie Francis Valladares Maria Patricia Vieira Terry John Vieira (Guyana) Compton Julian Young (Guyana)
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The families of our deceased brothers and sisters thank you for your prayers and expressions of sympathy.

\*brothers

Sincere thanks to those who listed Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. to receive donations in lieu of flowers.

## TRIBUTE

Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. (GCC) is saddened at the passing of its loyal and dedicated volunteer members, who have given so much of their time to support various sectors of GCC. They surely will be missed.



**Gordon Gonsalves** passed on March 11, 2018, beloved husband of Stella Gonsalves. Gordon was a great supporter of fundraisers and charities, especially those that benefited Guyana on the whole.

He volunteered with Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. for some years as a packer, as well as other ventures in this organization, such as the bake sale and assisted in the catering of the annual Valentine Dance for several years (until 2008), as his wife was part of the Gees.

Gord also had a great love for cricket. He himself was an ardent cricketer since from Guyana. In Canada he was also a long-time member of many cricket Clubs and became the Coach of the Scarborough Colts Cricket Club. He held many fundraising events to assist with training and coaching of these young protégées. He was known as "Coach" to them and will always be remembered for his life-long love of the game of cricket.

He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. To his wife Stella, who is also a long-standing supporter of GGC, his two children Lisa and Gary and grandson Ti, as well as his entire family, we offer our condolences and prayers. May he rest in peace.



**John Gonsalves** passed on June 3, 2018, predeceased by his loving wife Theresa.

Both John and his beloved wife Theresa decd. assisted GCC from its inception. John was one of the stallholders in the "Plants and Pickles" Stall at the annual Bake Sale and is fondly remembered for his Pickles and Chow Chow. He also assisted his wife Theresa who was one of the Gees in the catering of the annual Valentine Dance for several years (until 2008). It was only in the last couple of years that he has had to scale back on the running of the stall at the Bake Sale due to ill health.

His many friends and family will always remember John for his sense of humor and jovial manner.

To his children Suzanne, Johnny, David, Chris, his many grandchildren and great grandchildren, and his family, members of GGC offer their condolences and prayers. May he rest in peace.



**Margaret Claire Niccols (DaSilva)**, beloved wife of Stan Niccols, passed away on June 15, 2018 in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Margaret (Mags) was born in Guyana in 1939 and she was the third of five children of Tony and Bella DaSilva. Mags attended St. Rose's High School, where she was Head Girl, and after graduation she worked at the Royal Bank in Georgetown for a short time before her marriage to Stan in 1962.

Margaret and Stan came to Canada from Guyana, with their two daughters, Alison and Kathleen, in September, 1964. Together they built a happy life in their new country, but they never stopped thinking of "back home" in Guyana. Mags' happy life included her grandchildren, Dale and William, who were her special loves.

Before moving to Hamilton in 2014, Stan was an active member for Guyana Christian Charities for many years, and during that time Mags supported him and GCC in various ways. She attended Board meetings with Stan and offered thoughtful ideas and suggestions. She also gathered donations for shipments to Guyana, as well as contributed to and attended many GCC events. She was particularly involved in helping with arrangements to bring the St. Ann's Orphanage Choir to Canada to perform in Hamilton and Toronto.

Members of Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. extend their sympathy to Margaret's husband Stan and their family and friends. May she rest in peace.



## NEEDY FAMILIES NEED YOUR HELP



GCC continues to support the Holy Spirit Catholic Church Feeding Program in North Ruimveldt.

This program helps children in the area who are hurting from lack of daily nourishment. The meal also includes milk and vitamins three times a week.



Fr. Godfrey Veersammy, SJ., the Priest-in-charge, is most grateful to GCC for their assistance, as it allows the program to provide the children with some nutrients for their well-being.

GCC has already utilized its special fund to help defray the costs of this project, and would appreciate your help in the continuation of this much needed Feeding Program.

No one has ever become poor by giving.

Anne Frank



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The latter part of the year is normally quite busy for the members of GCC, due to the Fall Dance and Bake Sale round-up and the finalizing plans for the upcoming Valentine Dance, as well as other events of the New Year.

It has become a tradition that after our December meetings we have a social with all of the 'bring some goodies stuff' that everybody participates in, ... followed by a Christmas Carols and Songs sing-along accompanied by Allan Lee Chan (from "Coconut Club Band") on Quattro and keyboard .... with banjo, drums, shack-shacks, rattles, and even the homemade bottle and spoon ... and we really ENJOY OURSELVES!!

Members graciously offer their homes for this special meeting every year. Last year we were hosted by Rahana Khan. What a FANTASTIC evening we had.

Below is a photograph of those in attendance – with the exception of the photographer, Jackie Amres.



Merry  
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY New Year  
Believe  
IN THE SEASON  
Seasons Holiday  
GREETINGS MAGIC  
Joy TO THE WORLD  
Christmas  
GREETINGS

Christmas comes but once a year  
And every man must have his share.....

Popular Guyanese chant

Come Join us and Enjoy .....Our yearly Events

## Valentine Dinner and Dance



Saturday, February 9, 2019 @ 7.30 p.m.

St. Peter & Paul Banquet Hall  
231 Milner Avenue, Scarborough, ON

(Entrance on Milner Ave. – north of Hwy)

Band: Fuh Fun -- D.J. Raymond "Bakes" Pereira



## Spring Dance



Saturday, May 18, 2019 @ 7.30 p.m.

Pickering Recreation Complex

1867 Valley Farm Road Pickering

(Between Liverpool & Brock Rds. -- South of Highway 2)

## Fall Dance



Saturday, September 21, 2019 @ 7.30 p.m.

Pickering Recreation Complex

1867 Valley Farm Road Pickering

(Between Liverpool & Brock Rds. -- South of Highway 2)

Secure your Tickets for these dances early

Joe Castanheiro 416-286-1956

Mike Gonsalves 416-420-0565

Dexter Gonsalves 905-428-3883

Dennis Choy 905-839-0434

Karen Heifa 416-720-6902



or.... any GCC member or.... email: [gcccaninc@gmail.com](mailto:gcccaninc@gmail.com)



## Annual Bake & Food Sale Free Admission

SUNDAY OCTOBER 27, 2019

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Pickering Recreation Complex

1867 Valley Farm Road Pickering

(Between Liverpool & Brock Rds.)

South of Highway 2

New Donors ↔ Please contact: **Pansy Hsan 905-426-6099**

## Give a Helping Hand

THREE EASY WAYS YOU CAN HELP  
Guyana Christian Charities ....

1. PRAY FOR OUR CONTINUED SURVIVAL;
2. Volunteer with ONE of our many AREAS of NEED;
3. SUPPORT US financially - OUR ORGANIZATION DEPENDS ON YOUR GENEROSITY.

☒ **YES! I WANT TO HELP**

☐ \$100 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other

☐ GENERAL ☐ BERNARD GONSALVES MEMORIAL FUND

☐ IN MEMORY ☐ St. JOSEPH MERCY HOSPITAL FUND

☐ TRIBUTE

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Receipts are issued for donations of \$20 and over

Your donation of \$10.00 or more is tax-deductible. A receipt will be mailed, if so requested. CHARITABLE NO. 89096-5643-RR0001.

Please send your cheque and this form to:

**Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc.**

805 Middlefield Road, Unit 5, Scarborough ON M1V 4Z6

Donations may also be made through our Website:  
<http://www.gcccanada.org> (through CanadaHelps.org)

### NEWSLETTER MAILING LIST

☐ I would like to be on your Newsletter Mailing/email List

☐ My address has been changed

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form to: Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc.

805 Middlefield Road, Unit 5, Scarborough ON M1V 4Z6

### COULD YOU HELP GCC?

☐ Yes, I wish to become a member of your organization

☐ Yes, I would like to join the YOUTH COMMITTEE

☐ Yes, I wish to assist with donation of ITEMS/SUPPLIES

☐ Yes, I would like to help with the:

☐ BAKE & FOOD SALE ☐ Packing for shipments

☐ DANCES ☐ TRANSPORTING donated items

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form to: Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc.

805 Middlefield Road, Unit 5, Scarborough ON M1V 4Z6

## Guyana's History thought you knew

Q.	What do these Canadians have in common? R&B Singer Deborah Cox, Father of British Columbia Sir James Douglas and National Soccer Team Dwayne De Rosario?
A.	They are all Canadian Guyanese
Q.	In May 1966, Guyana gained independence. When did Canada establish diplomatic relations with Guyana? <i>This is the same types of question of when was the War of 1812.</i>
A.	May 1966 began full diplomatic relations. Canada had a limited diplomatic presence since March 1964.
Q.	Front page of the Toronto Star in a big bold headline read, "Happiness in Guyana is a blank blank."
A.	Canadian Visa

## CALL US TO ADVERTISE



We publish two newsletters each year  
(February and October)

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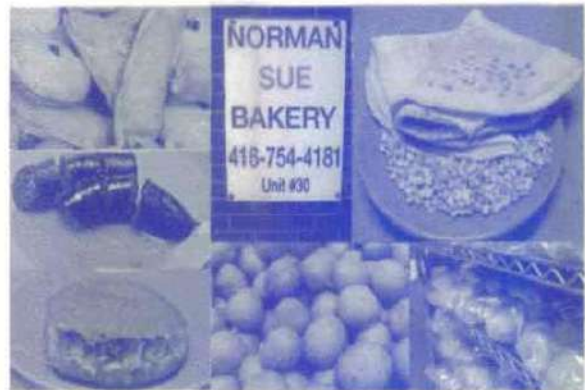
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