GREETINGS FROM
THE GOVERNMENT OF BARBADOS

CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE ON AGEING, ELDER ABUSE AND THE RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS

ROSEAU, DOMINICA

NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 01, 2015
SPECIAL GREETINGS FROM THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

Mr. Andrew Browne
Assistant Director, National Assistance Board
Brief History of Barbados

- Entire Population of Barbados: 280,000
- Persons over 65 Years in 2010: 11.3%
- Projected Population of Persons over 65 Years in 2025: 18.0%
Ministry of Health’s Long Term Care Institutions

Geriatric Hospital
- St. Philip District Hospital
- St. Lucy District Hospital
- Gordon Cummins Hospital
- The Elayne Scantlebury Centre (For Mentally Challenged Persons)
The Board seeks to maintain the dignity of elderly persons and the indigent in Barbados through the provision of an innovative range of social support and recreational services which are accessible, acceptable and readily available, while enhancing their quality of life within their communities.
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE BOARD
VISION

The enhancement of the well-being and the empowerment of the growing elderly population in Barbados.
PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES

- Vauxhall Senior Citizens’ Village
- Seniors’ Recreational Activities Programme
- Clyde Gollop Night Shelter for Homeless Men
- Bereavement Support Service
- Bereavement Hotline
- Jorris Dunner Elderly Day Care Centre
PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES

- Lancaster House
- Vulnerable Persons Committee
- Social Work Section
- Home Care Programme
  A. Pilot Community Nursing Project
  B. Industrial Cleaning and Debushing Programme
  C. Helping Hands Volunteer Project
COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

Home Care Service
Senior Citizens’ Village
Vauxhall Senior Citizens’ Village
From Green Paper to White Paper to National Policy on Ageing

Green Paper on Ageing 2004

White Paper on Ageing 2010

National Policy on Ageing for Barbados
Current Status – Passed in Parliament in June 2013
The National Policy on Ageing for Barbados

• is guided by the international principles emanating from a number of conventions, to which Barbados is a signatory.

These are:
Conventions

- 1982 – The International Plan of Action on Ageing Adopted by the First World Assembly on Ageing by the United Nations (UN)

- 1990 – The International Federation on Ageing Declaration of Rights and Responsibilities of Older Persons

- 1991 – The UN Principles for Older Persons Adopted Through the UN General Assembly Resolution.
Conventions


- 2002 – Madrid Political Declaration and International Plan of Action Adopted at the Second World War Assembly on Ageing by the UN.
National Policy on Ageing for Barbados

Brief Description of the Areas

- 1.0 Policy Statement
- 2.0 National Policy on Ageing and Its International Precedence Statement
- 3.0 Policy Ageing in Barbados: The Demographic and Social Dimensions
- 4.0 Financial and Economic Security for Older Persons in Barbados
- 5.0 Health and Health Care
Brief Description of the Areas (Con’t)

- 6.0 Physical and Built Environment
- 7.0 The Social Environment
- 8.0 Legislation
- 9.0 Research
- 10.0 Institutional Arrangement
ELDER ABUSE

SECTION 7.4.2

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide continuous public education and sensitization on the issue
- Mandate the social service agency responsible for elder affairs to develop a structured and coordinated approach aimed at the elimination of all forms of elder abuse
National Policy on Ageing for Barbados

ELDER ABUSE

SECTION 7.4.2

RECOMMENDATIONS (CONTINUED)

- create a national protocol for the prevention, reporting, investigation and management of elder abuse
- undertake research into the causes, extent and consequences of elder abuse in Barbados to help in the formulation of policy
- enact a single code of law to address the issue of elder abuse
ELDER ABUSE
SECTION 7.4.2
RECOMMENDATIONS (CONTINUED)

- provide services for victims of elder abuse, to include counselling, rehabilitation, alternative accommodation and support services
- establish mandatory counselling for perpetrators of elder abuse
- set up a clearly identified point in the age care system to which suspected cases of elder abuse can be referred by agencies, professional, older adults and the community at large
Facilitate the creation of a dedicated telephone help line for victims of elder abuse
- Observe June 15, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, as a nationally recognized day with structured activities that promote awareness of the elder abuse phenomenon
National Policy on Ageing for Barbados

Current status on the implementation of the Plan of Action for National Policy on Ageing

• Committee to monitor the implementation of the plan of action in the National Policy on Ageing was established in July 2014

• Draft Protocol for the Prevention, Reporting, Investigation and Management of Elder Abuse was completed in 2012. The protocol is a set of policies and procedures and agreements to report and manage elder abuse cases in Barbados.
National Policy on Ageing for Barbados

Current status on the implementation of the Plan of Action for National Policy on Ageing (Continued)

- The Committee established to implement the plan of action for the National Policy on Ageing is reviewing the gaps in existing legislation in an effort to create new legislation with specific reference to physical abuse, pain or impairment; sexual abuse; psychological and/or emotional abuse; medication abuse; financial abuse and abandonment. Committee members comprise of representatives from the Ministry of Social Care, the National Assistance Board/Commission for Elder Affairs, Ministry of Health, Consumer of Services, the National Committee on Ageing, Barbados Association of Retired Persons, Town and country Planning and Attorney General’s Office
Jorris Dunner Elderly Day Care Centre
THANK YOU VERY MUCH