



## JAMAICA SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**December 7 , 2012**

### **JSIF trains parents from Flankers**

Approximately 50 parents have benefitted from access to training activities geared toward improving capacity to effectively parent the children in their care, in a project was funded by the World Bank and Japan Social Development Fund Grant through the Jamaica Social Investment Fund.

Run by the Family Parenting centre, the eight month programme was used to improve parenting skills and relationships among at risk parents. The Male at Risk Family Development Programme in Flankers saw participants trained in positive parenting, discipline and conflict management, stages of development in children and communication skills.

The project also included the provision of parenting handbooks to participants. It was completed at a cost of \$2,588,889.93 with community contribution in kind of \$210,000.00.

Ayanna Demetrius Project Manager Japan Social Development Fund Grant at the JSIF noted at yesterday's graduation, "poor parenting can impact negatively on the development of our children. Some of these adverse effects include low self-esteem and low self-concept which renders them unable to cope with challenges of youth and adulthood.

"The Government of Jamaica has placed an increasing emphasis on Social Programme Interventions for the promotion of a culture of peace in our communities. It is in this light that the Japan Social Development Fund has continued to implement through JSIF, community action plans aimed at strengthening the planning capabilities for crime and violence prevention."

The project with Family and Parenting is the second such pursued by JSIF since the start of the year. In October at risk students graduated from a Behaviour Modification Programme where the focus was on helping children who have difficulty functioning properly within the school system.

Mrs. Demetrius noted, "a project such as this has far reaching effects, as good parents will improve children's performance and enable them to choose the right path through life." She said the effort was

in line with the Ministry of Education's thrust to encourage parents to take equal responsibility for their children's education.

**Contact:**

**Kristina Morgan, Communications Officer**

**Jamaica Social Investment Fund**

**Telephone: 968-4545. 446 -8639**