

Greenbury Secondary School Teachers'

Team-Building Workshop

15 & 16 August 2009

La Mercy Beach Hotel



The Educators at Greenbury Secondary School requested a development workshop to help them understand this programme and process. As part of the DDP's commitment and support to the leadership programme at Greenbury Secondary School we believe all stakeholders need to have a common understanding of the programme and process to make it a success.

The workshop started with much excitement and enthusiasm on Saturday as the teachers settled into the programme. They were taken on a journey of exploration as they found out a little more about each other through the introduction. This moved on and they journeyed a little further and deeper as they went into a

process of critical listening and acquired constructive conversation and discussion tools. As the workshop proceeded and the process moved from a large group of the 48 to smaller groups of 12 the excitement and energy was still high, but the tone and discussion became more intense. This was further broken down to groups of 8 for a more in-depth process.

Throughout this process the Educators were on a journey of self discovery through the eyes and thoughts of their colleagues. The process would not be complete without a session of solo time as they introspected and reflected on certain areas of their life. This information was then brought back to their small group for them to present at least one point of their discovery allowing others an opportunity of discovering more through questioning. During this process people connected with their colleagues at a very intense and real point, where people not only shared experiences but also emotions. It can be said that this was a turning point for many of the teachers. Not only did it connect and bond them but also set them on a course to develop as a team.

'I have more appreciation for you my friends and family. The listening exercise changed my thinking. No masks, just seeing people. We feel we have reclaimed our personal power as our environment has moulded us. The space created allowed us to open up.' These are just some of the comments made about the time that was spent together. By the end of the workshop on Sunday the energy and excitement level was still very high and many of the participants felt the time was too short.

This programme and process was welcomed by most of the participants and this was evident by the way in which they interacted throughout the workshop. Not only did this experience allow the educators to get to know each other better but also brought them much closer as a team through their new deeper understanding of each other.