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Mercy Care Center to Benefit from Fortis Inc. Annual Donation

This morning Belize Electricity Limited's (BEL) Manager, Corporate Communications, Dawn Sampson presented a cheque for \$4,000 on behalf of Fortis Inc. to Mercy Care Center's Director, Andre O'Brien. The presentation took place on the compound of the center located at 1955 Mercy Lane, Belize City.

Mercy Care Center provides food and health services to the elderly and underprivileged through its Mercy Kitchen and the St. Joseph Mercy Clinic. The Center has been in operation for the past 52 years and according to O'Brien following the loss of funding from a major United States based donor in 2005, the organization has been struggling to maintain its services.

O'Brien says that while the Center used to give free medication to its patients, it has had to discontinue this practice as a result of dwindling financial resources. The Center continues to provide basic clinic care and serves approximately 80 meals per day to its patients.



BEL's Manager, Corporate Communications, Dawn Sampson (l) presents the \$4,000 donation on behalf of Fortis Inc. to Director, Mercy Care Center, Andre O'Brien (r)

"The role of Mercy Care Center in our community is a very special one," said Sampson. "The organization has informed us that the critical financial challenges they face may cause them to close their doors in the near future. With this donation Fortis Inc. hopes to call attention to

this situation and encourage other businesses to make similar contributions to help the Center sustain its services to the community.”

The Mercy Care Center is a non-profit, charitable facility owned and sponsored by the religious order of Sisters of Mercy. For more information on the center or to make a contribution, call 223-0344 or email mercyclin@btl.net.

Since 2002, Fortis Inc. has made annual donations to deserving community initiatives in Belize. The Young Women’s Christian Association, Julian Cho Technical High School, Friends of Pediatrics Belize and the Belize Emergency Response Team have been amongst the organizations to benefit from this annual donation.

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