

**Stand Up For Jamaica
131 Tower Street
Kingston
948-8973 (W.)**

Stand Up For Jamaica is pleased to announce that for the first time as part of our rehabilitation activities in Correctional Facilities we were able to have inmates sit the CXC exams. This has been made possible through the kind sponsorship of the European Union which has been a main support behind all our rehabilitation programmes and the hospitality of the Department of Correctional services that have facilitated us.

Twenty-five (25) inmates at Tower Street Adult Correctional Centre and The Fort Augusta Adult Correctional Centre for women were registered on our programme and are presently sitting their exams. Stand up for Jamaica through funding provided by the European Union has been able to provide teachers, materials and administrative personnel to see to the efficient running of the programme so that inmates could have completed adequate contact hours despite the restrictions associated with their incarceration. Stand Up for Jamaica strongly believes in rehabilitation through education and as a result will continue to facilitate these programmes to foster proper rehabilitation and successful reintegration. The programme recognizes that persons who are incarcerated are equally human and deserves another chance at life rather than being demonized. As a result we train them, certify them, and assist them in successful reintegration.

We call upon all sectors of the society to support these programmes as they help to reduce the rate of recidivism, increase the education level of the population, provide employable ex-inmates and ultimately reduce the crime rate. We call on the private sector and other members of the business community to support by providing equal non-discriminatory opportunity for employment of these trained ex-inmates. We call upon managers of educational Institutions and Skills Training agencies to help to provide higher training for ex-inmates upon release and we call upon all Jamaicans to give ex-inmates an opportunity to be productive members of society by not discriminating.

Stand up for Jamaica in partnership with the European Union will continue to facilitate support and strengthen rehabilitation programmes as we all stand for a better Jamaica

**Maria Carla Gullotta
Executive Director**