

Press Release

Co-op Bank plays its part in "*Healing the Spice Isle*"

St. George's, Monday, November 22, 2004:

To aid in the psychological recovery process following the devastation to our island by Hurricane Ivan, the Grenada Co-operative Bank with the support from the Antigua & Barbuda Investment Bank (ABIB) and the St. Lucia Co-operative Bank, made possible the production and airing of a twelve-series, five minute radio programme entitled "*Healing the Spice Isle*".

The Bank felt that whilst it may be easy to rebuild homes and other physical structures the rebuilding of the psyche is a far more complicated process. In this regard as part of its recovery process, the Bank engaged Anguillan born, Dr. Linda Banks, who has traveled throughout the region and North America facilitating interventions with the clergy, laity, men, women and youth of many different denominations to produce the radio programme.

In addition, to producing the radio programme, Dr. Banks was engaged by the Bank to provide all day group sessions for the staff and their children to assist in their recovery and coping process. To the extent that the Bank has made every effort to assist the public and its staff in their psychological recovery it was also able to extend some assistance in the form of foodstuff and clothing to other institutions in the community. Presentations were made to several convalescent homes for the aged and needy.

Co-op Bank empathizes with all Grenadians who have suffered losses from the passage of Hurricane Ivan. As the only indigenous national Bank, we proudly embrace our civic responsibility more than ever, towards the growth and development of our nation. "...*Together we aspire, build and advance as one people*"