



Home for Christmas -

**Cayman Islands National Recovery Fund
Repairs Residences and Gets Residents
Back Home for the Holidays**



A story of thanks

When Alex Pennington returned to her South Sound home after Hurricane Ivan, the devastation that greeted her family prompted her daughter to give vent to thoughts of selling the house and moving.

"But where are we going to go," Ms. Alex questioned.

She knew she would not be leaving the house she had lived in for more than thirty years and which held precious memories of her husband who died 10 years ago. More recently, it is the place she has shared with her two granddaughters, aged 15 and 13.

With three inches of muck on the floor, all the roof shingles on the ground, the patio window blown in, a leaky bedroom and two cars covered by water, restoration seemed a daunting task.

Three months later, Ms. Alex and her two granddaughters are back in their house, which is almost spotless amid the sparkling Christmas decorations.

"It wasn't easy," Ms. Alex says of her recovery process. It involved hitchhiking for six weeks to her place of work at

Lime Tree Bay Condominiums,

after her car was stolen.

Not knowing where the money would come from to fix the roof, Ms. Alex turned to the Cayman Islands National Recovery Fund (CINRF)

"The fact that they (CINRF) fixed my roof and the fact that I work with some good people at Lime Tree Bay, makes me feel I am blessed," Ms. Alex says.

She had high praise for the workers who fixed the roof and installed a new window at her house. Ms. Alex said they told her that they really wanted to make her happy for Christmas by completing the repairs. "They really area bunch of good people," she said.

With heartfelt thanks to the National Recovery Fund, Ms. Alex is confident of bouncing back, "even if I get nothing else."



Amidst grief and loss, hope arises

Florence Marilyn Williams not only lived through the trauma of sea water washing through the front

and back of her house at Rev. Blackman Road, West Bay, but survived that nightmare only to be grief stricken weeks later.

After her brother went missing just around the time of the storm, his body was later found in mangroves in the district, a victim of Ivan's destructive strike.

After the passage of the storm, Ms. Florence has had to live with her grief, while trying together after losing her furniture and appliances, all windows to the house and the front and back doors which were ripped by the storm's fury.

With help from the Cayman Islands National Recovery Fund, all windows have been replaced as well as the front and back doors.

"I am happy with the work that has been done and the workmen were good," Ms. Florence says. "I am still short of a lot of things, but I thank God."



Quick Action from CIRF pleases East End Householder

At the end of Turnpike Lane in East end, Marjorie Benliss and her family watched in horror as Hurricane Ivan's fury ripped the roof

cayman recovery

The Cayman Islands National Recovery Fund's (CINRF) programme to assist Caymanian residents with repairs to their homes following the passage of Hurricane Ivan, has been gaining momentum since the fund's launch on 23rd September. Over 70 contracts have been awarded for repairs to homes in all districts in Grand Cayman, with another 15 soon to be on stream.

Among the contracts awarded 23 were for homes in George Town, with the same number in West Bay, 13 in Bodden Town, six in North Side and five in East End.

Of the 15 pending, 11 are in George Town and four in Bodden Town.

The CINRF was established as a Trust to relieve persons who were injured, bereaved, rendered homeless, destitute or otherwise affected by Hurricane Ivan.

It is administered by a Board of Trustee and headed by Executive Director, Mrs. Angela Martins.

The Fund office works with five companies, which provide project management services for

contractors assigned to the project. The office is at Trinity Square, Eastern Avenue and occupies space which was donated by Cable & Wireless along with office equipment, telephone and internet services.

Trustees of the Cayman Islands National Recovery Fund

- His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Bruce Dinwiddy, CMG
- Hon. Langford Pierson, MLA, JP, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
- Hon. W. McKeever Bush, OBE, JP, Leader of Government Business
- Hon. G. Kenneth Jefferson, MLA, JP, Financial Secretary
- Hon. D. Kurt Tibbetts, MLA, JP, Leader of the Opposition
- Cayman National Trust Company Ltd.
- Huw Moses
- Connor O'Dea
- Pastor Winston Rose
- Dan Scott
- Andrew Jones – Enforcer

Executive Director – Mrs. Angela Martins



from the back section of their house and water crept up their legs. They took shelter in the cellar.

A survey of the damage after the storm revealed not just loss of the roof but destruction of several window and water damage to furniture.

Mrs. Benliss, who is unemployed, applied to the Cayman Islands Recovery Fund for assistance to repair her home. "I was surprised," she says. "They came out and did the assessment and within a week they called back to say it was approved and told me to come in and sign the contract."

With repairs now completed to the roof and 11 windows replaced, Mrs. Benliss says, "I really appreciate it. Now everything is fine. We have no leaks. Now I can move the children back into their rooms."



With Roof Repaired, a Step towards Recovery

Joan Ruth McLaughlin lost almost the entire roof of her house at Seaview Drive, East End. Even now, she is still staying with her cousin and his wife, next door to her own house.

But Ms. McLaughlin is now a happier person. The roof has been replaced, thanks to the Cayman Islands National Recovery Fund. "Now I can fix the interior," Ms. McLaughlin says.

Repairs to the house took a quick

five days with the crew provided by the CINRF, working hard and doing what Ms. McLaughlin describes as "a good job."

"I appreciate all the help I have got," she states.



Repairs Bring Smiles for the Holidays

For three weeks after Hurricane Ivan, Garth Clarke, like many other Grand Cayman residents, was still mopping water from his apartment. Every time it rained he was

reminded of the destruction of Ivan, which took the shingles off, broke windows and flooded the living and bedrooms.

Garth, who shares the apartment with his girlfriend and two-year-old son, was told about the Cayman Islands National Recovery Fund and the grant he could get to effect repairs.

Although he waited a while for the repairs, Garth's application was approved and the roof has now been fixed and windows replaced.

"I am happy with the repairs," he says. "This has helped us a great deal because we had no insurance. If it wasn't for the Fund, the place would still be leaking."

He added: "I am very happy it's done for the holidays. Now I can get to the painting."