



The world's local bank

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HSBC RESPONDS TO NATIONAL HOUSING TRUST BOOK DRIVE

Following an appeal from the National Housing Development Trust (NHDT,) HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited (HSBC Cayman) has donated several books to stock the children's clubhouses at the NHDT's Windsor Park and West Bay housing developments.

The clubhouses provide much-needed after-school and weekend activities for children living in the housing developments and focus on educational and cultural programmes.

The NHDT is a non-profit body formed by the Cayman Islands Government to provide options for affordable housing to Caymanian families. The NHDT is managed by a board of directors and its staff is responsible for administering the Government Guarantee Home Assisted Mortgage Programme, the development of new Affordable Housing programmes, as well as the maintenance of Affordable Housing sites in West Bay and Windsor Park.

In response to the NHDT's request, HSBC Cayman donated books suitable for children of all ages.

This information is issued by

HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited

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Press Release

The book donation to the NHDT follows HSBC Cayman's donation of CI\$3,000 worth of books to local children over the past Christmas season.

HSBC Cayman's budding book donation programme began with a group of staff members who volunteered to have funds deducted monthly from their salaries and directed towards community projects. HSBC Cayman management agreed to match all staff funds collected. The book donation programme is the first community project to benefit from these funds.

Gonzalo Jalles, CEO of HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited, was appreciative of staff efforts to aid the community: "Given HSBC's global commitment to education, the book donation programme is a fitting one for HSBC's worldwide role as a good corporate citizen. I applaud the staff members who chose to be a part of this project and look forward to many similar activities."

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Caption:

- 1) HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited CEO Gonzalo Jalles (left,) the National Housing Development Trust's Sheila Rankine and HSBC Cayman Head of Human Resources Walling Whittaker showcase the books heading to the NHDT children's clubhouses at the Windsor Park and West Bay housing developments.

Notes to Editors:**HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited**

HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited is a class A licensed bank regulated by the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority which carries out fund administration, captive insurance management, corporate trust and private trust services. In 2007, HSBC announced plans to expand into the retail banking market in the Cayman Islands with the anticipated roll out of additional services in the latter half of 2008. Prior to the launch of retail services, HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited has been actively recruiting in the local market with some 70% of employees being Caymanian, significantly above the country's average of 49%. The bank has also launched a major training initiative to ensure that staff are ready to deliver first class service to clients.

HSBC Holdings plc

HSBC Holdings plc serves over 128 million customers worldwide through around 10,000 offices in 83 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa. With assets of some US\$2,354 billion at 31 December 2007, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. HSBC is marketed worldwide as 'the world's local bank'.

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