



We're doing great things for Nevis!

Five years ago, Friends of Islands Initiatives, Inc. started with a mission to help small island communities. These are some of our achievements from last year:

4

Tablets purchased for Alexandra Hospital to digitize patient records

2

Events sponsored to help educate and foster community:
Youth Beach Games
Swim to Win

1

Anesthesia vaporizer purchased for Alexandra Hospital

1

New website launched:

www.islandsinitiatives.org

Welcome to the inaugural newsletter from **Friends of Islands Initiatives, Inc. (FOIII)**!

We are pleased to send our valued supporters and community-minded advocates for Nevis an update on our organization and what we've accomplished in the past year, thanks to you.

FOIII is a small nonprofit with a concerted focus on helping solve the economic, social, educational, cultural, and environmental challenges facing Nevis and its neighboring island communities.

As the world's smallest sovereign federation, Nevis has unique challenges, and we are gratified to offer grants to local entities where we can make the most impact.

Quality medical care is of utmost importance to our special community in Nevis so, the lion's share of our support this year went to Alexandra Hospital, for which we were able to supply an Anesthesia Vaporizer and four tablets for digitizing patient records.

In addition, FOIII also focused on lifting up our next generation of Nevisians by donating 100 goggles to the Swim to Win program and by sponsoring the Nevis Department of Youth's Youth Beach Games.

We are immensely grateful to all who made our good work possible, including our incredible donors and our all-volunteer Board of Directors, and are excited to thank all of you in person at a Donor Appreciation Party when circumstances permit.

Sincerely,

Mark Pinney
President, FOIII

SEE PICTURES FROM 2021

www.islandsinitiatives.org/current-supporting-donors/

Donor Spotlight: Dana Welles Your \$100 Donation Is Worth More Than You Think

An enthusiastic board and a compelling mission are not enough for a nonprofit start-up to be successful. There are those essential initial supporters who provide encouragement and advice, as well as access to vital sources for funding.



Dana Welles is among those who have been instrumental in the success of Friends of Islands Initiatives, Inc. Not only have Dana and her husband, Tom, been very generous themselves, but Dana has used her connections to Donor Advised Funds managed by her dear friend Andrea Harkin to fund important initiatives for the Alexandra Hospital. The first two grants awarded to Friends of Islands Initiatives for the purchase of two bedside vital signs monitors for the Alexandra Hospital were the result of Dana's direct efforts.

Dana is a doer. In her hometown of New Fairfield, CT, she initiated two highly successful nonprofits: The New Fairfield Community Foundation and the all-volunteer New Fairfield Thrift Store, which continues to generate funds. Dana was also community advisor for the Fairfield County Community Foundation. With her husband's semi-retirement, Dana and Tom have spent more time on Nevis, and we've all benefited from her inability to look the other way when help is needed.

Dana's advice for FOIII supporters:

Foundations are required to disperse funds each year, guided by recommendations coming from Donor Advised Funds in their portfolio. Bringing worthy projects to the attention of Donor Advised Fund managers can be a worthwhile avenue for giving back to the community.

From the Board of Directors...

We are pleased to announce Mark Pinney as the new President of Friends of Islands Initiatives, Inc. Mark is a co-founder of FOIII and a direct descent of Azariah Pinney of Pinney's Estate and Mountravers in Nevis.

A very special thank you to Dr. Raymond Hubbe, who has served as FOIII President since April 2017 and will continue on as Clerk. Dr. Hubbe travels to Nevis semiannually to host an eye clinic for its residents. We are also incredibly grateful to Shelley Rappaport for remaining our Treasurer and for our volunteer directors: Helen "Cookie" Aronowitz, Margaret Pinney, Myra Jones Roman, and Lori Weathers.

Have you ever wondered why in the next hour your donation to your Public Radio Station will be matched 2:1? Why the director of your favorite nonprofit is not enthusiastic about your Wreath Making Fund Raiser? Or Why Friends of Islands Initiatives, Inc. is always stressing the importance of its \$100 Supporting Donors?

The answer lies in the IRS rules for nonprofits 501(c)3 charities. To keep our nonprofit status, a third of our overall revenues must come from small donations, excluding unrelated business income (wreath making, gift shops, gala dinners), donations from board members, and any donation more than 2% of total revenues. These exclusions are included in overall revenues, of course, but excluded in calculating the 33% of small donations. Understanding this mathematical reckoning that our nonprofits must navigate makes it clear why Supporting Donors are first-class in our non-profit's voyage of survival.

With a dedicated all-volunteer Board and no overhead for offices, paid employees, mailing costs, fancy brochures, and the like, your charitable donation truly makes a difference to the island of Nevis.

**Can we count
on you to help?**

GIVE TODAY AT
www.islandsinitiatives.org/making-donations/

If you know someone who would be interested in the good work we do, please forward this newsletter to them or encourage them to support our cause!
info@islandsinitiatives.org

