

**Bahamas Lotus
Nonprofit**

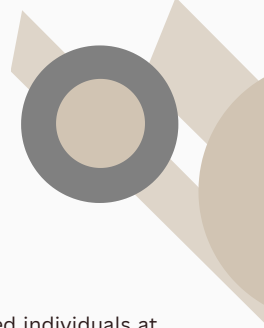


**BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES, ONE
CHILD, ONE PERSON, ONE FAMILY AT A TIME**

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FOUNDER MESSAGE



Dear Fellow Changemaker,

Through my years of experience in community work, I have witnessed individuals at their worst. Not having daily necessities, unable to provide food for their families, and struggling to survive. As an individual with a strong sense of discernment, I have always seen people for who they could become, opposed to who they currently are. Hoping that everyone could reach their full potential, striving for excellence.

Changing the world starts at home, and what I mean is that healing, growth, transformation, and activism start inside us and radiate out to make a difference in the world. When we are inspired, we inspire others! The work we do is incredibly personal to me as it is a part of my journey of expanding my worldview. The recipients we help support are not nameless faces, they are part of our extended family.

Each day we open our doors and greet our youth, families, colleagues and community with love and respect. We recommit to open-minded learning, constant improvement, and intentional evolution as individuals and as an organization. Whether in our office, on the streets, on the telephone or anywhere else, we live by a set of values that informs the way we experience the world.

The individuals and families we support are gifted and often lack the opportunity and support, but possess intelligence, determination, and perseverance. We believe in removing obstacles to help others act upon their dreams and thrive. We are proud to work alongside our partners to make this happen.

I am asking that you partner with us to make a difference in our communities. The community is hurting and through small gestures, we can build our communities with one person at a time. Don't miss the opportunity to assist. Your time is now, let us join forces! A community united can IMPACT many, we CAN NOT do this work alone. We are all pieces to ONE large puzzle. It is important that we identify which piece we are, show up and play our part!

With deep gratitude,

Dwina E. Higgs
CEO & Founder of Bahamas Lotus

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COMPANY HISTORY

On Monday, November 16th, 2020, Bahamas Lotus (BL) Non-Profit Organization (NPO) #366, was officially granted Non-Profit, status under the Commonwealth of The Bahamas Non-Profit Organizations Act 2019 (No. 25 of 2019 Section 7).

Bahamas Lotus, formerly called Gapseed, was founded on July 5th, 2018. BL began its work by assisting individuals with filling out forms, writing resumes and providing financial support for groceries and educational supplies. Following Hurricane Dorian and during the Covid-19 pandemic, Bahamas Lotus services expanded, to providing support/aid with employment, economic needs, social needs, and self-development.

We rise by lifting others.
Robert Ingersoll



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WHO WE ARE?

Bahamas Lotus (BL) is a Nonprofit Organization established to provide assistance, training and resources for the growth and development of individuals and families. BL provides support services and assistance with employment, economic needs, social needs, psychosocial needs, personal enhancement, and family development to individuals living throughout the Commonwealth of The Bahamas and Bahamians living abroad so that Bahamians can live healthier and richer lives. This simply means, we have been:

- fostering good habits and skillsets,
- identifying risk traits,
- showing the cause and effects of the risk,
- cultivating ways one can mitigate risk, and
- teaching ways to reduce these occurrences.

VISION

Bahamas Lotus Non-Profit Organization is designed for individuals and families who need assistance and guidance to strengthen family growth and advancement. BL will provide assistance, training and resources for the growth and development for individuals and families.

MISSION

To build resilient individuals and families by helping them to identify and target risk traits and use protective factors and interventions to empower themselves and produce safer communities.



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OUR PHILOSOPHY

Did you know that the Lotus flower has a life cycle like no other flower? With its roots based in mud, it submerges every night into murky river water. Undeterred by its dirty environment, it miraculously re-blooms the next morning without residue on its petals. The lotus flower is born in water, grows in water and rises out of water to stand above unsoiled. Like the Lotus flower, the volunteers, families, and communities that may become recipients of Bahamas Lotus services, will rise out of their vulnerable and marginalized conditions to tap into their gifts, elevate their circumstances and collectively advance their environment.

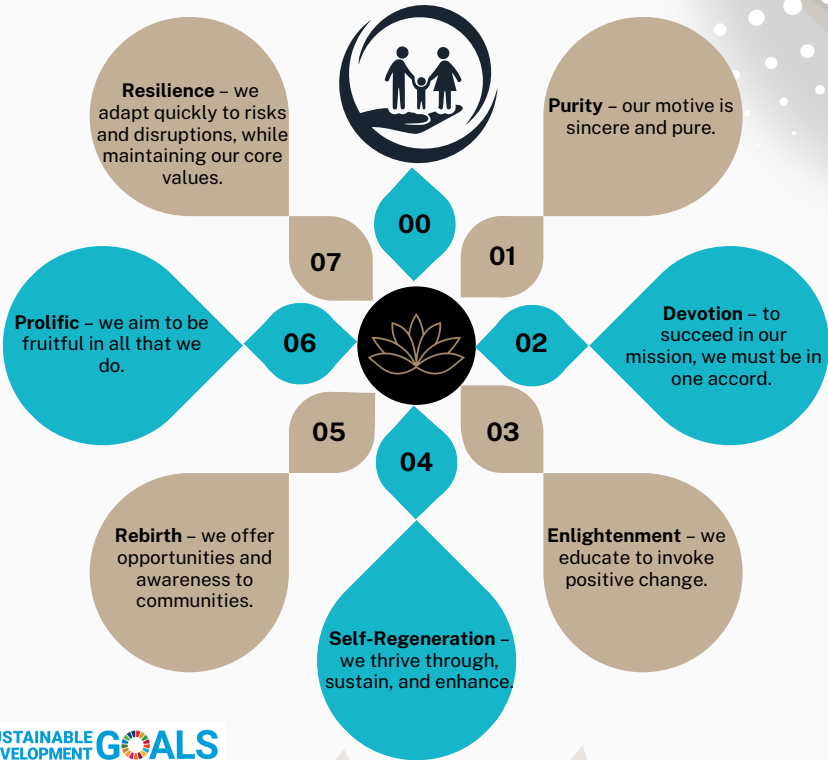
Like the lotus flower that is born out of mud, we must honor the darkest parts of ourselves and the most painful of our life's experiences, because they are what allow us to birth our most beautiful self.



Debbie Ford

Bahamas Lotus
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COMPANY VALUES



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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COMPANY OBJECTIVES

- **TO PROVIDE** basic goods such as: food boxes, school lunches, supplies, clothing and vouchers, etc.
- **TO OFFER** financial skills, training, and strategies to assist individuals and families with budgeting as well as provide help with wage management.
- **TO FACILITATE** application process for individuals and families to access assistance from government, and private entities with funding for utilities, rent, home repairs, childcare, medical, clothing, uniform and burial needs.
- **TO CREATE** and teach developmental training programs for youth and adults.
- **TO SEEK** external funding, Locally and Internationally from various International Organizations to support BL's overall mission/vision.
- **TO PROVIDE** administrative assistance and negotiations for persons seeking emergency and permanent housing as well as to assist families with landlord/tenant issues.
- **TO PROVIDE** emergency relief and assistance to individuals and families of The Bahamas during any catastrophe or natural disaster.
- **TO SEEK** gratis legal assistance for persons needing help with matters regarding child custody, child support, immigration services, violations of the law and victim's rights.
- **TO PROVIDE** training in the areas of parenting, family non-violent communication, child development, infant care, healthy living, self-discipline, problem solving, family conflicts.

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TO PREPARE adolescents and young people with the skillset and experience to successfully transition to adulthood. This is done by empowering them with the knowledge of various support networks and connections available within the community. Bahamas Lotus Centre will offer mentorship resources for young people with disabilities, those who lack traditional family support, live alone, are homeless and who become pregnant.

TO STRENGTHEN individuals and family protective mechanisms, including:

- i. Parental resilience,
- ii. Social connections,
- iii. Economic empowerment,
- iv. Psycho-social supports in times of need,
- v. Knowledge of parenting and child development, and
- vi. Social and emotional competence for children.

**OUR WORK IS
FOCUSED ON**



**Bahamas Lotus
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TESTIMONIALS



DONOR



Donating to the Bahamas Lotus Nonprofit feels great. I love the work they do.

Ms. Ashlee Duncombe
Manager



OBSERVER



New NGO with a lot of STRATEGIC potential. Raising the bar of excellence. I foresee great things emerging out from Bahamas Lotus.

Dr. Anthony Hamilton
President of Civil Society Bahamas



DONOR



What you guys are doing is real and makes a great impact, especially the work with the youths. Keep up the good work.

Mr. Craig Smith
Former Superior Maintenance



COLLABORATOR



I want to send a big THANK YOU for being such a great advocate for Children an Women in the areas of abuse and sexual assault. It's truly an honor to work with BL.

Chief Supt Janet McKenzie
The Royal Bahamas Police Force
Western Division



VOLUNTEER



The hours that I spend volunteering for Lotus Group are the best part of my month. I love giving back to the community.

Mr. Kendrick Tinker
CEO Butta It's/ Butta It's Construction



COLLABORATOR



It was such an honor partnering with BL to help Empower our youth. They were truly great and we can't wait to partner with them in the future!

Capt. Javano McKenzie
CEO Sacred Cays



RECIPIENT



We are so grateful for BL's engagement with the kids. It was evident that they were passionate about ensuring our kids was well informed.

Ms. Psyche Black
Adelaide Primary School Prncipal



RECIPIENT



Fantastic! That says it all about your IDW Seminar, The content, the pace, the personal style, the new nuggets. I really enjoyed myself.

Ms. Erin Brown
CEO Erin Brown Connects



RECIPIENT



During my hardest time Bahamas Lotus was there for me and my kids. They were the light at the end of my tunnel.

Ms. Dianna Wright



VOLUNTEER



I love volunteering at BL, the people are knowledgeable and professional and are passionate about the work they do.

Mr. Anthony Sands



RECIPIENT



Thank you for an informative workshop. The information received was invaluable and can help our board be productive, and allow us to fulfill our mission.

Ms. Latoya Johnson
CEO Business Institute



VOLUNTEER



I had the opportunity to witness the growth and development of children and families... BL truly made a positive difference in their lives.

Ms. Ariel Demeritte
Volunteer & Community Events Coordinator



OBSERVER



They go above and beyond for their recipients. I can't say enough wonderful things about this org. They're organized, determined, passionate, and resourceful.

Dr. Novia Carter
Director, Bahamas National Drug Council



DONOR



Every time I provide a donation to BL, I know that I am making an impact in our community. Each gift I give goes directly to training or Men and Boys.

Mr. Garvin Rhaming
GR Electric



OBSERVER



New and upcoming Public Health Advocate with the Ministry of Health and Wellness. Making great contributing in the area of Climate Change.

Dr. Calae Philippe
Sr. Medical Officer at Bahamas Ministry of Health



THE EFFECTS OF GIVING



People feel as though they have a moral duty to use what they have to help others – a sentiment that is rooted in their personal values and principles.



"No one has ever become poor by giving."

Anne Frank

Having the power to improve the lives of others is a privilege, one that is closely associated with its own sense of obligation. Acting on these powerful feelings of responsibility is an excellent way of reinforcing our own personal values and feel like we're living in a way that abides by our beliefs.

Give something to those who have less.



- Community Outreach
- Training
- Youth Programs
- Advocacy
- Food Assistance

Funds raised will help us provide:

42%

People

Admit they feel enjoyment after giving

49%

Gen X Donors

Enrolled in a monthly giving program

84%

Millennials

Donate to charity on a regular basis

87%

Silent Generation

Participate in giving to charity



of all donations go directly towards our programs



of people live in extreme poverty



of people live in Poverty

Your donations can inspire your friends and family to also give to causes close to their heart. It could even bring about a family-wide effort to support a charity or charities that have special significance to you.

With giving, not only can you offer monetary support, but you can also donate your time, which is priceless.



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DONATE OR PLEDGE FORM

Since 2018, Bahamas Lotus has been working diligently to fulfilling its mission, in building resilient individuals and families by helping them to reduce risk traits and use protective factors and interventions to empower themselves and produce stronger families and safer communities. This simply means we've been fostering good habits and skillsets, identifying risk traits, showing the cause and effects they have on communities, cultivating ways risk can be mitigated, teaching ways to reduce the occurrences; so that they can live healthier and richer lives.

While we have made some great strides, we still have a lot to accomplish. The resources received from our donors and sponsors enable us to provide needed services and training. We rely on the support of generous individuals and businesses in our community, who make it possible for our recipients to receive, food, clothing, educational, and vocational classes, family development, enjoy social and recreational outings, and build self-esteem in a positive, loving environment. Our organization would not exist without the kindness of those who give back. It all started with their choice to act instead of looking away. Your action has the power to transform the life of families. Make a pledge today, it is critical in helping us to build resilient communities.

**In the quiet hours when we are
alone and there is nobody to tell
us what fine fellows we are, we
come sometimes upon a moment
in which we wonder, not how
much money we are earning, nor
how famous we have become, but
what good we are doing.**

A.A. Milne

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BAHAMAS LOTUS

I. CONTRIBUTOR INFORMATION (Your personal information is kept confidential)

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

Island: _____

P.O. Box: _____

Preferred Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I, _____ am committed to contribute financially to Bahamas Lotus \$_____ to the very best of my ability. _____ Please Initial

II. DONATIONS

A ONE-TIME DONATION, IN THE AMOUNT OF:

\$5,000 \$2,500 \$1,000 \$500 \$100 \$50 Other: _____

A REOCCURRING DONATION, AS FOLLOWS:

A sum of the _____ Once Every Month Quarter Year amounting in the Total of \$_____

III. METHOD OF PAYMENT

Check enclosed, Please make checks payable to "Bahamas Lotus"

Please bill my credit card: Card type Visa MasterCard American Express

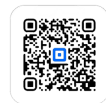
Account number: _____ Expiration Date: _____ CSC/CVV2: _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Pay by credit card scan QR code



IV. CERTIFICATION

I am aware and acknowledge that when making this gift and future gifts to BL or any of its funds, I am making it of my own free will and that once the asset is transferred it becomes the property of Bahamas Lotus to be used for charitable and educational purposes as outlined by BL, subject to such approved donor restrictions as are permitted by law. I understand that unless approved in writing by BL, my requests regarding BL's use of my contribution is a non-binding request and that BL's Board of Directors makes all grant decisions at its sole and independent discretion, subject to applicable law and approved donor restrictions. I certify that if grants are distributed from my donation, they will not fulfill a pre-existing pledge. Further, neither I, nor any other individual, will receive any goods, services or other private benefit from the organization as consideration for the amount of the contribution that is tax deductible. We will not share your personal information for marketing or promotional purposes to unaffiliated entities.

Authorized Signature: _____

46 Bernard Road
Nassau, The Bahamas
P.O. Box N - 222



Phone: 242-603-0446
donate@bahamaslotus.com
www.bahamaslotus.com

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Thank You For Your Support!

IMPORTANT CONTACT

Name	Position Description	Contact
Ms. Dwina Higgs	Executive Director	executive@bahamaslotus.com
Mr. Jamaal McKenzie	Finance & IT Director	accounts@bahamaslotus.com
Ms. Ariel Demeritte	Volunteer & Community Events Coordinator	volunteer@bahamaslotus.com
Ms. Felcia Godet	Program Director	programs@bahamaslotus.com
Mr. Leo Rolle	Public Relations Director	pr@bahamaslotus.com
Switchboard	Head Office	242-603-0446
General Inquires	Please Contact Us!	info@bahamaslotus.com

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It all starts with your choice to act
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