



PR#086-26

PRESS RELEASE

Ministry of Human Development Hosts Happy Hearts Funday for Children in Care

Belmopan, March 31, 2026.

The Ministry of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs, through the Department of Human Services, successfully hosted the Happy Hearts Funday at Rendezvous Caye, a memorable and uplifting experience for 255 children from residential care homes and government-operated facilities across Belize. The event was supported by 130 dedicated caregivers, social workers, and staff who ensured the children enjoyed a safe, fun-filled day.

Children from AIM Belize, Hope Haven, Hopewell Children's Home, Liberty Children's Home, Marla's House of Hope, and Laugh Out Loud Children's Home joined residents from government-operated facilities, including Coral Grove, Mile 14, and the Dorothy Menzies Child Care Centre (DMCCC) for the special island excursion.

Activities included swimming, kite flying, volleyball, interactive games, and a range of entertainment options such as a water slide, bouncy house, cotton candy, popcorn, and snow cones. The children also participated in friendly competitions and prize giveaways, creating lasting memories and moments of pure happiness.

Hon. Thea Garcia-Ramirez, Minister of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs, delivered a warm, brief welcome to the children and spent the entire day engaging with them, interacting with caregivers, and supporting the activities. Her presence underscored the Ministry's continued commitment to ensuring children in care experience opportunities for joy, inclusion, and positive development.

The Belize Coast Guard and Fisheries Department provided support during the excursion, helping to ensure safe transportation and reinforcing a protective environment for all participants.

The Ministry of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs extends sincere appreciation to all partners, caregivers, and staff for their collaboration, which made this meaningful initiative possible. The Ministry remains committed to promoting the well-being, happiness, and holistic development of children across Belize.

Ends