

# THE FOUNDATION FOCUS

*CREATING LEGACIES.....BUILDING DREAMS!*

**SPECIAL EDITION - ARDENNE ALUMNI WELLNESS CENTRE**



## REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRMAN



**Mrs. Florence Darby**

This is a moment we have worked toward, prayed for, and believed in together. We are proud and deeply grateful to announce that the Ardenne Alumni Foundation has received the official building permit from KSAMC to commence

construction of the Ardenne Alumni Wellness Centre.

After navigating regulatory approvals, the impact of Hurricane Melissa on construction costs, and the many behind-the-scenes efforts of our team, we stand today at the threshold of placing the first block on the ground - *literally.*

Discussions with the church and the current tenant on the property have concluded successfully, and all parties are in agreement with the plan to move forward. We thank them sincerely for their cooperation and goodwill.

***Construction is scheduled to begin June 1, 2026.***

This milestone belongs to every alumnus, chapter, donor, and well-wisher who said "yes" when asked to give.

To those who are yet to contribute ... *your moment to be part of the history of Ardenne is now!*

***DONATE TODAY!!***

This edition of the newsletter is a special edition with focus on sharing information on the wellness centre and our upcoming activities.

***Deo Duce Quare Optima***

*Flo Darby*  
Chairman



 **WE HAVE OUR BUILDING PERMIT!** 

Construction begins June 1, 2026 — The Dream is now on its way to being a Reality



## WELLNESS CENTRE UPDATE

The journey to this moment has been one of determination and patience. Following the receipt of Fire Department approval and the subsequent forwarding of our recommendation to KSAMC, our application was heard at the May 2026 KSAMC meeting. We are now in possession of the full building permit, a milestone that officially unlocks the next chapter of this transformational project.

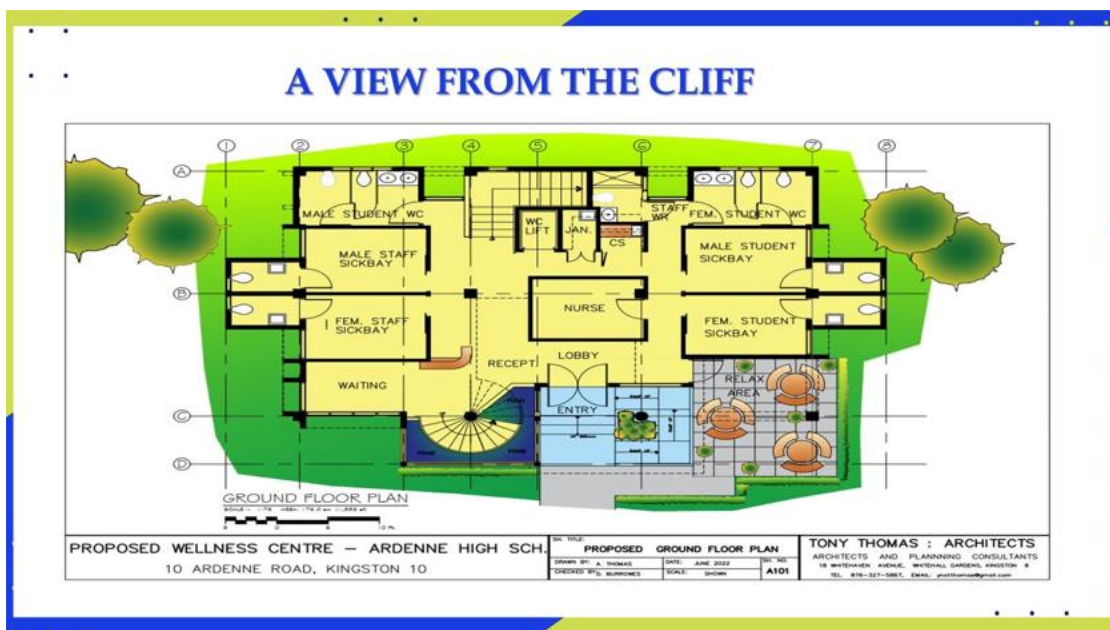
A tender process was held with two (2) of three (3) selected bidders providing complete responses. The project management team, Florence Darby and Dean Burrows, together with Rosemarie Henry, Corporate Secretary open the bids and thereafter the team from Burrows and Wallace completed a recommendation for the most suitable builder. The contract was awarded to Dennis Barnaby Construction Limited, who had a previous working relationship with the Ardenne Community and was also the lowest bidder. The cost associated with this bid is \$82,543,598.76.

Our project management team continues to guide every aspect of planning and execution. Site preparation activities are now being coordinated in advance of the June 1, 2026, construction start time.

## THE BUILDING: A CLOSER LOOK

Designed by Tony Thomas Architects & Planning Consultants, the Wellness Centre will be a purpose-built, two-storey facility at 10 Ardenne Road, Kingston 10. The ground floor plan includes:

- Male and Female Student Sickbays
- Male and Female Staff Sickbays
- Nurse’s Station and Reception Lobby
- Waiting Area and Relaxation Zone
- Modern lift/elevator access
- Beautifully landscaped pond and outdoor areas



*Proposed Ground Floor Plan — Ardenne Wellness Centre (Tony Thomas: Architects, June 2022)*

## PROJECT PHASE OVERVIEW

The table below shows the high-level project phases. The detailed construction programme prepared by Dennis Barnaby Construction Limited follows on the next page.

PHASE	DESCRIPTION	TIMELINE
Phase 1	Planning & Fundraising	Jan 2024 – Ongoing
Phase 2	Preconstruction & KSAMC Approvals	Jan 2025 – May 2026 ✓
Phase 3	Construction — Phase A (Foundation & Structural)	Jun – Aug 2026
Phase 4	Construction — Phase B (Interior, Finishes & Exterior)	Sep 2026 – Feb 2027
Phase 5	Furnishing, Testing & Finalization	Mar – Jun 2027
Phase 6	Official Launch & Operations	Jun – Jul 2027

✓ Completed milestone

## BUILDING CONTRACT SIGNING



As anticipated with the impact of Hurricane Melissa on the resource of the island, we are facing an increase in the overall cost of building the Wellness Centre. We have previously received a price of \$64M to construct the centre and this cost has now been revised to approximately \$83M. Funds are urgently needed to ensure we are able to continue the project once started.

### *Project Managers*

Florence Darby, Attorney-at-Law/Chairman, Ardenne Alumni Foundation  
 Dean Burrowes, Quantity Surveyor & Project Manager, Ardenne High School

May 25, 2026

**CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME — DENNIS BARNABY CONSTRUCTION LTD**

The preliminary construction programme below, signed by Dennis Barnaby Construction Limited on April 9, 2026, outlines the full 9-month build schedule from June 2026 through February 2027, covering all 27 construction activities

#	Activity	Jun 2026	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan 2027	Feb
1	Mobilization	■								
2	Hoarding & setup	■								
3	Setting out	■								
4	Excavation	■	■							
5	Foundations		■	■						
6	Ground slab		■	■						
7	GF columns			■	■					
8	1st floor slab			■	■					
9	2nd floor slab				■	■				
10	Roof slab					■	■			
11	External walls				■	■				
12	Internal walls				■	■				
13	Windows					■	■			
14	Doors					■	■			
15	MEP rough-in				■	■	■			
16	Fire systems						■	■		
17	Plastering						■	■		
18	Ceilings							■	■	
19	Floor finishes								■	■
20	Painting							■	■	
21	Joinery							■	■	
22	Electrical fixtures							■	■	
23	Plumbing fixtures							■	■	
24	Car park surfacing						■	■		
25	Landscaping						■	■		
26	Testing			■	■	■	■	■	■	
27	Handover									■

■ Filled bar = activity scheduled for that month

**Signed: Dennis Barnaby Construction Limited**

Date: 9 April 2026

## WELLNESS CENTRE FINANCIAL TARGET & DONOR BOARD UPDATE

### FINANCIAL TARGET UPDATE

The receipt of our building permit and the appointment of the building contractor mark the beginning of our most ambitious fundraising push yet. While we have raised \$25,786,455 toward our new target of \$82,543,599, we still need to raise \$56,757,144 to complete construction. The impact of Hurricane Melissa on material costs means every dollar raised goes even further in demonstrating our community's resolve to complete this project.

PERIOD	RAISED TO DATE	TARGET	FUNDS STILL NEEDED
APRIL, 2026	\$25,786,455	\$82,543,599	\$56,757,144

All funds are quoted in Jamaican Dollars

### DONOR BOARD UPDATE:

←-----DONOR CATEGORY-----→

DONOR	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
Paul Barnett Legacy Fund				11,328,695
AAA Chapter Toronto		1,000,000		
AA Chapter Atlanta (US\$18,309)		2,792,123		
Parkers Foundation (US\$2,000)	307,500			
AAA Chapter Florida (US\$58,050)			8,891,387	
Audrey Chin (Director - AA Foundation) (US\$5,000)	750,000			
Myrna Merchant on behalf of the Tri-state group (US\$4,700.00)	716,750			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,774,250</b>	<b>3,792,123</b>	<b>8,891,387</b>	<b>11,328,695</b>

All funds are quoted in Jamaican Dollars

# YOU!!!



***YOU NEED TO BE REPRESENTED HERE!!!!***

**DONATE NOW**

## OUR FUNDRAISING STRATEGY

The fundraising team has been working diligently behind the scenes and is now ready to go live with a comprehensive multi-channel strategy:

### CORPORATE & FOUNDATIONS

- Local & overseas corporate sponsors
- Foundation grants (Jamaica & Overseas)
- Naming rights for key spaces
- Major gift solicitation programme

### EVENTS & COMMUNITY

- Optima 5K Run/Walk (annual to eventually support ongoing maintenance cost for centre)
- Chapter fundraising drives globally
- Online donation campaigns
- Individual alumni giving pledges
- Fundraising Banquet

## JOIN THE DONOR BOARD

Your gift places you permanently on the Ardenne Alumni Wellness Centre Donor Board, a lasting recognition of your investment in the health and wellness of generations of students.

## HOW TO DONATE

Your support, whether a one-time gift, a pledge, or a corporate sponsorship, brings us one step closer to opening the doors of the Ardenne Alumni Wellness Centre in 2027.

### USD ACCOUNT

Account #: 990858851529  
Intermediary Bank & Swift: CitiBank  
CITIUS33 ABA# 021000089  
Beneficiary Bank: First Global Bank Limited  
Swift: FILBJMKN

**Beneficiary: Ardenne Alumni Foundation**

### JMD ACCOUNT

**Ardenne Alumni Foundation**  
First Global Bank Limited  
Current Account #: 990858868370  
Branch: Liguanea

## GET INVOLVED

- Register for, sponsor or identify sponsors for the Optima 5K Run/Walk
- Make a direct donation - one-time or recurring – directly or through your chapter
- Secure naming rights for a room or space in the Centre
- Mobilize the members in your chapter to set and meet a chapter giving goal
- Connect corporate partners and foundations to our fundraising team

- Spread the word: @ardennealumnifoundation | @Optima\_run

**BECOME PART OF HISTORY**

**JOIN THE DONOR BOARD**

**SILVER**  
J\$1,000,000 - J\$2,999,999

**BRONZE**  
J\$500,000 - J\$999,999

**GOLD**  
J\$3,000,000 - J\$9,999,999

**PLATINUM**  
J\$10,000,000 AND OVER

**THE ARDENNE WELLNESS CENTRE**

For more info call:  
+1 (876) 817-4639



**MEMBERS OF THE FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Officers:**

Chairman	- Florence Darby
Deputy Chairman	- Esther Tyson
Corporate Secretary/Accountant	- Rosemarie A. Henry

**Directors:**

Jennings ‘Max’ Gordon	- Member, Special Project Committee
Audrey Chin	- Special Projects Director
Vilma McDonald	- Fundraising Director
To be appointed	- Representative (Jamaica): Ardenne Alumni Association

**Chapter Reps:**

Florida	-	Dennis Livingston
Atlanta	-	Uton Henry
Toronto	-	Paul Barnett
New York	-	Roan Wallace

**Supporting Team:**

Optima 5K Run Coordinator	- Esther Tyson
Public Relations Officer	- Marie Nembhard
Editor - Newsletter	- Rosemarie A. Henry

**Need to get in touch with the Foundation? Contact details below:**



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