"ONE BAHAMAS 2013 UNITY WALK DONATES \$8,000 TO CIVIC AND CHURCH GROUPS; 2014 WALK PLANNED FOR FEBRUARY 15^{TH.}

Coming off a successful 20th anniversary "Unity Walk" on February 23rd, The One Bahamas organization is already making plans for its 2014 walk.

According to Mr. Peter Bates, chief organizer for the walk, "the February event far surpassed our expectations with some 2,000 persons participating. The feedback has been very positive and so the committee has decided to make it an annual event."

According to Mr. Bates, the primary purpose of the Unity Walk is to continue to promote the ideals of The One Bahamas Foundation – **unity in the community**, and the 2013 walk achieved that goal by attracting a wide cross section of the community.

"Some 22 corporate, church, and civic organizations registered with 10 or more persons, and this resulted in many organizations benefitting financially, including Bahamas Crisis Centre, Association for the Disabled, The Cancer Society of The Bahamas, Rotary Club of East Nassau, The Ranfurly Home for Children, Evangelistic Temple, REACH, Nazareth Centre for Children, Salvation Army, Rotary Club of Nassau, Bahamas Red Cross, One Bahamas, Rotary Club of South East Nassau, Rotary Club of Nassau Sunrise, and Urban Renewal. The committee had agreed that for each group that registered with 10 or more persons, that \$5 from each registrant's fee would be donated to an approved charity or group. Additionally four youth organizations were selected as the event's named beneficiaries - The Scouts Association, the Girl Guides Association, Girls Brigades and the Boys Brigades," said Bates.

"We look forward to this event becoming an annual event, as we work together in the true spirit of the One Bahamas organization, to make our country the best that it can be," added Bates.

The fun walk began at 6:30a.m., leaving Arawak Cay and travelling west along West Bay Street into the Cable Beach area to the turn-around point at the round-about at the Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort, and returned east along West Bay Street to Arawak Cay.

The event concluded with remarks by Sir Orville Turnquest and performances by Visage, Osano Neely and Freddie Munnings. The Rotary Clubs of The Bahamas hosted a "finish line" souse stall.

The 2014 One Bahamas Unity Walk is scheduled for Saturday, February 15th. Registration will begin on January 15th, 2014."