



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BARBUDANS MAKE HISTORY AS THEY DELIVER THE FIRST “BARBUDA RISING HOMECOMING” TO CELEBRATE THEIR CULTURAL HERITAGE AND RECONNECT | REBUILD | RESTORE.

CODRINGTON, Barbuda - JULY 19, 2018. Barbudans and friends of Barbuda from around the world are making their descent on this unique paradise island to join in an iconic event reconnecting Barbudans with their homeland and heritage. From **July 21-27, 2018**, the very first Barbuda Rising Homecoming offers a full week of activities designed to support the community of islanders and diaspora to restore hope, reaffirm Barbudan values and identity, and to proactively rebuild Barbuda together with vision, purpose and fortitude.

The organizers who are based in Barbuda and Antigua and across the world (United States, Canada and United Kingdom) have designed a week long program that aims to encourage a sense of belonging and also continue the discussion led by the local community, towards an ethical and sustainable future for generations to come. This year has been one of Barbuda’s toughest and this move to return home has become a powerful vehicle to mobilize the diaspora with their support and presence in light of the impacts of Category 5+++ Hurricane Irma in September 2017.

“Out of tragic events, you often see communities come together, working hand and hand to restore their dignity and lives.” Said Tamara Huggins, BRH Organizer. *“Barbuda Rising Homecoming will show the world that a global community is behind the people of Barbuda as this island rises again from Hurricane Irma, and rebuilds stronger than ever, at the will of the people.”*

Launching on Saturday 21 July with another productive **#REBUILDBARBUDA** village beautification and clean up, the week is packed with engaging and inspirational activities, including a long awaited intensive consultation, *Envisioning Barbuda for 2030*

and Beyond, designed to empower and encourage Barbudans to come together and plan the future. On Sunday all 7 churches on the island have unified to deliver a Thanksgiving Service that has included an invitation to the complete Antigua and Barbuda Government, Caribbean dignitaries and NGO's to give thanks and a moment of spiritual focus.

Attendees will get the chance to experience some indigenous Barbudan delicacies, a *Barbuda Then* exhibit, screening of a *Barbuda Documentary* followed by a discussion on *The History of Barbuda* and *Know Your Heritage: Family Tree Activity*, alongside a photography exhibition featuring the work of professional photographers who have played an important part in the coverage of the Barbudan narrative post Hurricane Irma.

"It is wonderful that Barbudans the world over, are coming home to assist in charting the way forward for our beloved island." said Wayde Burton, chair of the Barbuda Council. *"The Council is looking forward to welcoming everybody and engaging in this celebration of everything Barbudan."*

For Barbudans and friends of Barbuda seeking further information about the event please email barbudarising@gmail.com, to keep up to date with the weeks activities like and follow www.facebook.com/Barbuda.

Media Contact:

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BARBUDA RISING HOMECOMING

21-27 JULY 2018

Reconnect with our homeland and heritage
Rebuild with vision, purpose and fortitude
Restore hope, values and identity



SATURDAY JULY 21

Unity Cleanup #RebuildBarbuda

Time: 7am to 12pm - Meeting Location: The Block Club

Ribbon Cutting

Gathering Time: 5pm (bus leaving Madison) Start Time: 6pm

Location: Caribana City

Pap Night

Time: Immediately after Ribbon Cutting - Location: Caribana City

Special Community Circle Filming

SUNDAY JULY 22

Thanksgiving Service - Barbuda Channel Live Broadcast

Time: 10am - 12pm - Location: Caribana City

Thanksgiving Reception

Time: Immediately after Thanksgiving Service - Location: Caribana City

MONDAY JULY 23

Sunrise Historical Hike

Time: 5:30am - Meeting Location: Madison Square

"Barbuda Then" Exhibit

Time: 10am to 4pm - Location: Caribana City

Genealogical Mapping (Family Tree)

Time: 5pm - Location: Caribana City

Know Your Heritage Discussion & Presentation -

Barbuda Channel Live Broadcast

Time: 6pm - Location: Caribana City

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TUESDAY JULY 24

Barbuda 2030 Consultation

Registration Time: 9am to 9:45am - Registration Fee: \$10.00 XCD

Time: 10am to 6pm - Location: Caribana City

Griot & Poetry Night

Time: 7pm - Location: Caribana City

WEDNESDAY JULY 25

Unity Cleanup #RebuildBarbuda

Time: 7am to 12pm - Meeting Location: The Block Club

Health & Wellness Fair

Medical Services Registration Time: 9am

Time: 9:30am to 4pm - Location: Caribana City

(with bus transfers to Hannah Thomas Hospital for medical services)

THURSDAY JULY 26

Beach Picnic & Island Tours

Time: 10:00am - Location: River (meet taxis at River to book Island Tour)

Evening Bonfire (with Souse, Goat Water and Seafood Chowder)

Time: 6:30pm - Location: River

FRIDAY JULY 27

Sports Day

Time: 3pm - Location: Caribana City

HOPE Rising Concert - Barbuda Channel Live Broadcast

Time: 7:30pm - Location: Caribana City