

## Meet our new Chief Executive Officer



**Marietta Carrington**

Signalling a changing of the guard, the Board of Directors of The Substance Abuse Foundation Inc, (The SAF), unanimously approved the appointment of Marietta Carrington as their new Chief Executive Officer. This move forms part of The SAF's overall strategic succession plan.

Marietta, who joined the Foundation in July 2013 and has been part of the Executive Team, serving in the role of Director – HR, Communication & Client Development, assumed responsibility as CEO on April 1, 2017. She succeeds Peter Boos, a co-founder who has been the director of The SAF from its inception in 1996 and Volunteer CEO from 2004. He will continue to serve as Chairman of The SAF.

During that time she spearheaded the development of a 21st century HR function, and got Verdun House approved by the TVET Council as a Second Chance Institution (Assessment Centre), while being responsible for assisting the Clinical team prepare clients for skills development and job placements, resource acquisition (fundraising), marketing & communications projects, and strengthening the charity's micro businesses.

In welcoming Marietta to this new role, Chairman Peter Boos indicated that her main priorities will be spearheading initiatives for short and long term sustainability, as well as expanding the organisation's reach in the Caribbean so that men, women and their families can have greater access to addiction and mental health treatment of international standards.

"It is her results-oriented approach, compassion for the most vulnerable in our society and the ability to think and act strategically that will be most valuable to the organization at this time," Boos stated.

In commenting about the appointment, Carrington noted: "Having spent most of my career within the business and corporate arena, I can't think of anywhere else that I would rather be at this time than within the therapeutic environs of Verdun House and Marina House. This is more than a job. It is painful and sometimes frustrating work but I get the opportunity to experience modern day miracles every time I see men, women, children and families heal and go back to communities as productive members. The personal satisfaction and rewards simply cannot be measured."

Carrington is a seasoned business manager with broad experience in strategic planning, HR Management, marketing management, business development, client care and customer service management. She has spent the last four years strengthening her knowledge of and gaining valuable experience in the addiction and mental health field. She has participated in an extensive, specialized Professional In Residence Programme at the Hazelden Betty Ford campus in Minnesota – the most respected treatment centre and addiction graduate school in the USA. She has also undergone a similar programme at Action on Addiction, one of the UK's most respected treatment centres. She holds a degree in marketing, a postgraduate diploma in management and has attended many seminars, workshops and conferences over her extensive career. She has successfully completed certifications in Addiction and Co-occurring Disorders; Ethics in Counselling from Hazelden Betty Ford Graduate School in the USA; and Fundamentals of Addiction from the University of the West Indies, Open Campus in Trinidad & Tobago. She has also participated in a number of workshops and seminars on mental health and addiction.