

2.0 BELIZE RURAL HIGH

The Belize Rural Highschool was started in September of 1983 because of the urgent need for education among the younger heads in the community. Many of the high school age children had to attend school in Belize city which was not only inconvenient for study purpose but also proved very expensive. In an effort to alleviate the situation, the community centre was utilised and a high school was opened in Double head Cabbage. The idea of the school came from the community and a representation was made to government through the village council. Presently there are over 30 students attending this school ranging in age from 13 to 19 years. Students come from the community itself as well as neighboring villages such as Scotland half moon, Flowers bank, Bermudian landing, Isabella Bank, Lemonal, Willows bank, St. Pauls and Rancho dolores. The farthest of these villages is eleven mile for which accommodations are being planned to allow students to remain overnight.

The present high school is runned by the government and administered by a principal and a staff of six. Although the need for this high school can be appreciated by the community, government and BARD the existence of this high school is threatened due to insufficient funds for expansion on the present building. Since the present location was designed for a community centre and not a school it creates problems in the efficient running of the school. The closing down of this school would mean the loss of an opportunity for a sound education for many of the students since it is very unlikely that parents with an income of \$2,000.00 could afford to purchase an education in Belize city valued at \$3,000.00 per annum.

4.0 PROJECT SUMMARY

Appreciating the need for a highschool in the area and understanding the limitations under the system, the community of Double Head Cabbage plans to undertake the following activities hand-in-hand with Government, Village Council, Churches, BARD, and the Pig Raisers Cooperative for the acquiring of a building suitable for a highschool which we could all be proud of.

- (i) Acquire an acre of land for the location of the building
- (ii) Raise funds through contributions, donations and drives for the building.
- (iii) construct a building 32' X 64' to house the