

Marlone “Sandy” Dawkins RECE
St. Bartholomew’s Children’s Centre, Regent Park Inc.

“Close To Our Home Close To Our Hearts for 37 Years Strong”

I have been working at St. Bartholomew's Children's Centre, Regent Park Inc. for a total of 37 years. As the Centre's Executive Director for 29 years and for the rest of the time in the role of the Programme Coordinator and as a student.

I take great pride in the fond memories that I have gathered throughout the thirty-seven years I have been working here. This community has given me the opportunity to build many treasured ties over the years with the staff, children, parents, and board.

Growing, living, and working in the Regent Park Community has given me amazing life experiences. I have built a solid foundation for my life from childhood to adulthood. This has included building relationships with my peers, children, parents, my Church family and the St. Bartholomew’s Board of Directors.

Through memorable childhood experiences, my father and mother instilled plenty of value in me and my brothers. We were given shared responsibilities in our home. From that small community in Jamaica to living in Regent Park and attending Lord Dufferin Public School, opened my eyes to so many things; people, cultures, etc. My brother Keastner was instrumental in my growth in Regent Park’s community. He invited me to Sunday worship and in 1992 I was confirmed on Rogation Sunday by none other than Father Greene. I had also attended the Salvation Army Church and volunteered as a Brownie, Girl Guide Assistant and was also a Pathfinder.

I started working at St. Bartholomew’s Children’s Centre on a part-time basis at the age of 16. I was under the Supervision of the late Father Galt Korthright, Executive Director, the late Rob McDill, Program Co-ordinator, and Victoria Lorde, Parish Worker and part-time Junior Program Coordinator. During the years of working part time I was encouraged by the late Robert McDill the former Executive Director to pursue my studies in the childcare field. After completing High School I continued two years of study at George Brown College and achieved my E.C.E Diploma in June of 1989.

I will continue to follow the path and special plans that God has for my life. I am encouraged, excited and look forward to our future growth together with our great family settings " Close To Our Home Close To Our Heart".