Junior Achievement 2017 Innovation Camp

Just after Hurricane Irma, the Junior Achievement 2017 Innovation Camp took place simultaneously in Grand Turk and Providenciales. In Grand Turk, 59 students gathered at the H.J. Robinson High School, breaking down into 12 teams of 14- to 18 year-olds. Seventy-seven students from numerous high schools around Providenciales gathered at The Shore Club breaking into 11 teams. For this year’s challenge, both groups were asked to find a way to prepare for and mitigate the effects of a hurricane through a full day of brainstorming and presentations. Judges were representatives from Scotiabank and the Department of Disaster Management, considering content, creativity, quality and team spirit. The winning Grand Turk team, **Forecast 5**, proposed a mobile app whose main purpose was to provide hurricane updates and preparedness tips, serving as a weather radar, friend tracker and First Aid assistant. The winning Providenciales team, **649 Aerial System**, proposed a drone damage assessment tool. The system would also include an app that not only provided real-time damage assessment, but also hurricane updates and preparedness tips. Team **Forecast 5** was comprised of Kendrea Gelcius, Llewandra Basden, Raynae Myers, Samantha Marcellus and Angelia Ariza. Both teams will face off in January 2018 with another challenge. The winner will represent the Turks & Caicos Islands in the regional Innovation Camp Challenge hosted by JA Americas. Junior Achievement is an international non-profit organization focused on inspiring and motivating kids to be ambitious and goal oriented. The Junior Achievement Innovation Camp is regionally funded through a partnership with Scotiabank.

*Story By Claire Parrish ~ Photos By Angela Musgrove*

Team 649 Aerial System from Providenciales includes (at center, from left): Rasheed John, Rodisha Johnson, Anthonique Asamoah, Zaria Ingham, Ernelle Hall and Robria Clarke.