

The Governor-General's Programme for Excellence (GGPE) evolved in 2014 to give cohesiveness to the programmes that are affiliated to the Office of the Governor-General: the Governor-General's Achievement Awards (GGAA) and the I Believe Initiative (IBI).



## The GGAA

The GGPE has its origins in the GGAA which began in 1991. The GGAA recognised individuals (Jamaicans) thirty-five years (35) and older who had achieved greatly despite difficult and challenging socio-economic circumstances. They would also have been making a substantial contribution to the nation, but were not recipients of National Honours and Awards.

This programme was expanded in 2006 to recognize youth ages 18 – 35 years, for excellence in academia and service. It also recognizes individuals in the Diaspora who are making a significant contribution to Jamaica and their host country. In 2015 the Diaspora Award was extended to also include a youth category, which increased the number of recipients from three to six.

While His Excellency the Governor-General makes the final approval, it is the Custos along with his / her Committee who receive the nominations and adjudicate who the three parish recipients should be. Thirty-eight candidates were presented to His Excellency for approval. They were honoured within their county at a specially planned ceremony and pinned by Her Excellency the Governor-General's wife, at King's House in November.

## The IBI

In 2011, the I Believe Initiative which is the service-oriented arm of the programme, was launched.

The object is to motivate and inspire youth to believe in themselves, achieve their God-given potential and to give service to their country.

### IBI Mission

*To create pathways through partnerships and to promote programmes that restore hope, belief, and sound values in Jamaica's families, youth and education.*

### IBI Vision

*Through strategic partnerships, programmes, the belief and support of Jamaicans, the I Believe Initiative of Jamaica will lead a campaign to inspire and motivate Jamaicans to believe in their God-given potential and to contribute to building a prosperous and peaceful nation.*

The Initiative seeks to achieve its mission and vision by creating, contributing and endorsing Projects that fall under the IBI pillars of 'Youth', 'Education' and 'Family'.