



## MEDIA RELEASE

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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### *Education is Freedom says Social Development Minister*

Port of Spain: “Education is the key to emerge from poverty”, said Minister of Social Development and Family Services, the Honourable Camille Robinson-Regis, as she addressed over 800 Graduates of the 2019 Cycle of the Ministry’s Adult Education Programme, and thousands of their parents, supporters and well-wishers at the UWI SPEC last Friday.

The Ministry’s Adult Education Programme is conducted at various centres throughout Trinidad and offers a variety of courses including electrical installation, plumbing repairs, beauty culture, garment construction, computer technology, typewriting, caring for the elderly, catering, home décor and floral design.

Minister Robinson-Regis further challenged the graduates to rise beyond past decisions that prevented them from achieving their vast potentials. According to the Minister, “While we may be products of our past, we are not obligated to be its prisoners. To be sure, our mistakes have the power to turn us into something better than we were before”. She noted that education had the power to either bring about conformity or the practice of freedom.

Describing the graduation ceremony as the ‘crowning achievement’ of the hundreds gathered, she pledged Government’s continued support, through the Ministry of Social Development, to all who found themselves on the margins of society. Noting that approximately eighty percent of the graduates were female, Minister Robinson- Regis noted that “The Government will continue to provide all the opportunities that are available to meet the growing demands of our population. Whether it is by building day care facilities in communities, or establishing safe houses for victims of intimate partner violence, this Government is committed to the continued enhancement of the quality of life afforded to women, particularly the single mothers, and those who reside on the peripheries of our society”.



*Minister of Social Development and Family Services, the Honourable Camille Robinson-Regis takes a photo with some Graduates of the 2019 Cycle of the Ministry's Adult Education Programme.*



*Minister Robinson-Regis presents a certificate of achievement in “Care for the Elderly” to Ms Janice Margaret Greasley during the Ministry’s Adult Education Programme graduation at UWI SPEC on Friday 6<sup>th</sup>.*





*Graduates of the 2019 Cycle of the Ministry's Adult Education Programme supported by their parents, supporters and well-wishers at the UWI SPEC last Friday.*



*Graduates of the Adult Education Programme's Steelpan Music Course perform for the audience.*

**###ENDS###**