



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Ministry of Social Development and Family Services



MEDIA RELEASE

February 27, 2021

Priority: HIGH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT ON NON PAYMENT OF SALARY TO CSDP WORKERS

The Minister of Social Development and Family Services, Senator, The Honourable Donna Cox wishes to bring some much needed clarity to the subject of “Non-payment of salaries to the workers attached to the Centre for Social Displaced Persons” (CSDP). The Centre is operated by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul with Government providing a quarterly subvention to assist with recurrent expenditure. St. Vincent de Paul is an autonomous non-governmental organisation with its own governance structure. The staff at the CSDP is the sole responsibility of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

According to the Minister, some of these workers approached the Ministry’s office last Friday (February 26, 2021), claiming that the Ministry has faulted on their salary payments for January and February. It should be noted that the State remains committed to supporting institutions for the socially displaced via the payment of subventions, but there has been some unforeseen delays with regard to payment of subventions to all NGOs. The MSDFS humbly regrets this situation and is working with the relevant authorities to address the matter within the constraints brought about by our country’s financial realities following COVID 19

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services intends to meet with the Society of St Vincent de Paul to address any administrative and financial challenges being faced by the institution at this time, with the intention of bringing this situation to a closure in the soonest possible time.

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