



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Priority: **HIGH**

Ministry commemorates Social Work Day with Special Cake and salute to Social Workers

Port-of-Spain --- A special cake was selected to commemorate Social Work Day on March 16th, by the Minister and Executive of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services. Joined by social workers and other staff members of the Ministry, Senator The Honourable Donna Cox expressed her gratitude to the social workers for the yeoman service they provide on a daily basis. Minister of Social Development and Family Services, Senator the Honourable Donna Cox, during the ceremony said “Social Workers walk alongside those who are experiencing a range of adverse times such as life crises, domestic violence and poverty. You all are essential workers with the clients of the Ministry, as your skill set is used on the front line to help vulnerable individuals and communities navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.”

According to the Minister: “Once you are working in this Ministry, you are regarded as a social worker just by the work you do. For this I am grateful as we continue to help, empower, and transform lives”. She indicated that it was important to take some time off to appreciate the staff and dedicated the cake to their hard work and passion throughout the year.

Both Permanent Secretaries also shared similar sentiments, indicating that during the COVID pandemic, all hands were on deck to provide assistance towards those most affected. They too expressed their gratitude and encouraged staff to continue to serve diligently.

The annual commemoration of the United Nations’ World Social Work Day on March 16th, is an opportunity for all societies to recognise the increasingly crucial role of social workers in establishing a nurturing and inclusive environment for all communities of persons. The theme selected for 2021 was *Ubuntu: I am because we are – Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness*.

The Minister and Executive then joined staff in cutting and sharing the cake.



Minister Cox, members of her Executive and the social work representatives of the Ministry of Social Development and Family services.



Minister Cox cuts the cake with members of her Executive



Permanent Secretary, Sheila Seecharan celebrates with the social workers attached to the National Family Services Division

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