



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday 12<sup>th</sup>, March, 2021

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Priority: **HIGH**

*Ministry of Social Development and Family Services  
salutes all Social Workers for World Social Work Day*

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services joins with the international community to commemorate the *United Nations' World Social Work Day* on March 16<sup>th</sup>. The annual commemoration 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 internationally.

Under the theme, *Ubuntu: I am Because We Are. Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness*, the world is reminded of the need to unite for the attainment of common development goals, given the multi-faceted nature of poverty and inequality and the real threat to humanity of an increase in social exclusion in the wake of the COVID 19 pandemic. It is indeed and opportune time for all nations to capitalise on the invaluable network of alliances and experience of social workers, in the fight against poverty, social injustice and inequality.

To observe the day and highlight the valuable work of social workers, the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services planned a series of activities during the month. In extending greetings on the day, Minister of Social Development and Family Services, Senator the Honourable Donna Cox thanked all social workers for their efforts towards building a greater Trinidad and Tobago, and for the diligent performance of their duties during the COVID-19 pandemic. According to Minister Cox, “We celebrate the fact that it is because of the care, concern and commitment of social workers employed across numerous disciplines, that many of our households and communities are able to recover and thrive today.”

She added that “While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the underbelly of inequality and inequity that exists in much of the world’s communities, especially as it pertains to access to vaccines; it has also revealed many opportunities for the world’s social welfare systems to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable. Our experience has also been able to strengthen the collective resolve of governments and societies everywhere, resulting in more frequent dialogue, the sharing of resources; and a renewed sense of purpose towards the fulfilment of the 2030 global sustainable agenda.”

Minister Cox also indicated that the Ministry will continue to strengthen the social services sector under its purview through engagement to ensure that no person is left behind. “As part of the renewed mandate for the revitalisation of the social services sector in Trinidad and Tobago, the Ministry remains committed to ensuring that the expertise and insights of social workers are included in the modernization of its policies, programmes and services.” The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services will continue during the month of March, to observe and commemorate World Social Work Day, through its several initiatives and activities, inclusive of various media messaging.

**-END-**

**For more information:**

Corporate Communications and Education Unit  
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services  
(868) 623-2608; Ext 5405/5432  
Website: [www.social.gov.tt](http://www.social.gov.tt)  
[cceu@social.gov.tt](mailto:cceu@social.gov.tt)