

## Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

## Ministry of Social Development and Family Services MEDIA RELEASE



Thursday, 01 July 2021

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Priority: HIGH**

## <u>Minister Cox receives Hampers from Maritime Financial for distribution to</u> vulnerable families

Thursday July 1, 2021 --- In support of the many individuals and families who are experiencing various levels of hardship during this time, due to the COVID-19 restrictions, Senator The Honourable Donna Cox, today received a total of twenty-five (25) food hampers from the Maritime Financial Group for distribution. This is the first tranche of hampers to be donated through the collaboration between the Ministry and the Maritime Financial Group. The Minister received the donation earlier today at the Ministry's Head Office on St. Vincent Street, Port-of-Spain. Joining her to receive the hampers was Permanent Secretary of the MSDFS, Mrs. Jacinta Bailey-Sobers.

In her brief remarks of appreciation, Minister Cox indicated that she was pleased by the gesture of the Maritime Financial Group. She indicated that the hampers will be put to very good use, as many families are now in dire need and that she was certain the recipients will be happy for the support. Some of the hampers will also be going to individuals who are on quarantine and cannot leave their homes. Additionally, persons who have applied for COVID-19 social support and are awaiting their applications to be processed, will receive this interim support. The Minister said that on a daily basis, persons come to the district Offices for grants and counselling services, and sometimes even at her office, requesting immediate support, so that the hampers will also be used to assist in these circumstances.

In closing, the Minister said that she invites other entities of the business sector to partner with the Ministry in a similar manner so that direct and immediate relief could be provided to ensure that no one is left behind.

Colonial Life Building, 39-43 St. Vincent Street, Port of Spain, Trinidad, W.I. Telephone: (868)-623-2608

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(l-r) PS Jacinta Bailey-Sobers, Minister Donna Cox and Maritime Financial Group representative, Shania Gloudon



Minister Cox and PS Jacinta Bailey-Sobers view the various goods inside each hamper





The 25 hampers donated by the Maritime Financial Group

Communications and Education Unit Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (868) 623-2608; Ext 5405/5445/5432; TOLL FREE: 800 – 1MSD (1673)

Website: www.social.gov.ttEmail: cceu@social.gov.tt