



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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It is Always Prayer say News Centenarian

Since the relaunch of the National Centenarian Programme, a common factor noticed among many of the centenarians celebrated is prayer and its attribution to longevity. The same can be said for Ms Veronica Vernett-Hinds who stated it is “Always prayer.”

Prayer was also a great source of strength for the centenarian when she lost her only child and daughter to cancer in 2014. Despite losing her daughter, Ms Vernett-Hinds was all smiles today as she celebrated her 100th birthday among family and loved ones. Joining the intimate celebration were Ms Quelyn Joseph and Mr Ernest Webster, both Inspector I’s of the Division of Ageing who visited the new centenarian to wish her a happy 100th birthday and to honour her as part of the Ministry’s National Centenarian Programme.

During the visit, staff learned of Mrs Vernett-Hinds’s days as a machine operator at a factory in England in her early twenties. Mrs Vernett-Hinds also noted that much has changed in the last 100 years. “A lot has changed. The new generation is different, before it used to be a village to raise a child, that is no longer so,” she said. She further advised this generation to “Do good and good would follow you.”

The grandmother of five and great-grandmother of nine further stated that her days are spent giving advice to her grandchildren and spending time with her family.

Following the visit, Mrs Vernett-Hinds was presented with her Certificate of Honour and Achievement, a hamper donated by the Minister of Social Development and Family Services, Senator the Honourable Donna Cox, and a personalised birthday cake sponsored by the Kiss Baking Company.

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services was pleased to honour our latest centenarian and encourage family and loved ones, Members of Parliament, Local Government representatives, friends, and neighbours to salute our nation’s centenarians by registering for the Programme. Persons may visit the Ministry’s website at www.social.gov.tt and complete the online form or print a downloadable form for completion. Completed forms may be dropped off at the nearest Social Welfare Office or emailed to the Division of Ageing at opic@social.gov.tt. For more information, persons may contact the Division of Ageing at 623 – 2608; Ext 2002 to 2009 or 800-OPIC (6742).



Birthday Girl - Ms Veronica Vernett-Hinds celebrates her 100th birthday today.



Ms Veronica Vernett-Hinds receives her Certificate of Honour and Achievement from Ms Quelyn Joseph of the Division of Ageing.