



MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 04 May 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Priority: **HIGH**

Minister Cox lauds Vision on Mission's Triangle of Hope Project

Port-of-Spain --- In keeping with the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services' drive to provide equal access to opportunities and resources for vulnerable families, Senator the Honourable Donna Cox, Minister of Social Development and Family Services earlier today, May 4th, attended the official launch of 'Triangle of Hope Project', hosted by Vision on Mission (VOM), at their Head Office, in St Augustine.

Minister Cox was one of the feature speakers at the launch, which was attended by other Ministers including the Honourable Shamfa Cudjoe, Minister of Sport and Community Development and the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds, Minister of National Security. Also in attendance were Ag. Commissioner of Police, Mr Mc Donald Jacob; Mr. Fitzroy Frederick, Chairman of Vision On Mission; Mr. Deopersad Ramoutar, Acting Commissioner of Prisons; and Mrs. Giselle Chance, Chief Executive Officer of Vision On Mission.

The Triangle of Hope Programme seeks to address the circumstances of families and children of incarcerated offenders who are at high risk of engaging in anti-social behaviour.

Presenting the programme to the audience, Vision on Mission's CEO Mrs. Giselle Chance expressed her sincere appreciation for the support given to the organization by various stakeholders, including the Ministry. "It is Vision on Mission's hope for adult and child participants to develop and sustain healthy relationships. We also want to galvanize the delivery of services to the many families of incarcerated persons, with the aim of breaking intergenerational cycles of crime. I look forward to changing and transforming lives, and providing an opportunity of hope and vision for those that need it the most."

In her brief remarks, Minister Cox stated that she was extremely inspired by the initiative proposed by the Vision on Mission organisation. According to Minister Cox, "The Triangle of Hope Programme will bring together the resources of the national community in an effort to identify ways of breaking intergenerational cycles of crime and criminality in families and communities."

As she addressed the audience, Minister Cox noted that the Ministry also seeks to empower clients through rehabilitative and skill enhancement initiatives, which promote human prosperity in the wider context of sustainable development. "The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services has consistently played a critical role in ensuring that the vulnerable in our society are in receipt of goods and services which will not only impact significantly on their daily lives, but ultimately move them to a place of empowerment and self-sufficiency. Many of Vision On Missions' clients, the families and children of prisoners and ex-prisoners, fall into this category"

said Minister Cox.

Minister Cox also took the opportunity to outline some of the support available for vulnerable families and at risk children. These included the Public Assistance Grant, the Food Support Programme, Sowing Empowerment and Entrepreneurial Development (SEED) Grant, and free counselling, advice, advocacy, referrals and placement, where necessary.

In closing, Minister Cox applauded the Vision on Mission team for this new outreach programme. “I believe it is necessary, meaningful, and will go a long way towards building strong and resilient families and children and reducing the rate of recidivism” she said. She further stated that this initiative is aligned with the Ministry’s mandate, to ensure that no one, especially children, is left behind.

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services remains committed to maintaining partnerships in an effort to ensure that the most vulnerable are supported in their most critical time of need.

END



Minister Cox delivers remarks at the official launch of 'Triangle of Hope Project'



Minister Cox, The Honourable Shamfa Cudjoe, Minister of Sport and Community Development and the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds, Minister of National Security pose with the Vision on Mission's Board of Directors and CEO of Vision on Mission at the unveiling of the 'Triangle of Hope' logo.



(l-r) The Honourable Shamfa Cudjoe, Minister of Sport and Community Development, the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds, Minister of National Security, Mrs. Giselle Chance, Chief Executive Officer of Vision On Mission, Mr. Fitzroy Frederick, Chairman of Vision On Mission; and Minister Cox



Minister Cox presents a token to one of Vision on Mission's beneficiaries