



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Priority: **HIGH**

New Centenarian says God always makes a way!

Newest centenarian, Marie Pascal, is happy to be alive and owes it all to God. To celebrate the significant milestone, Inspector I of the Division of Ageing, Nyiida Andrews, earlier today, May 24, visited Ms. Pascal at her home located in Laventille, to honour her as part of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services' National Centenarian Programme where citizens 100 years and over are honoured and recognized for their contributions to the development of Trinidad and Tobago.

Ms. Pascal is a proud mother and grandmother. She has 1 daughter, 1 grand daughter and 2 great grandchildren. Because her children reside in the United States of America, she uses her telephone regularly to keep in touch with her family and keep the bond close. Growing up, she was a child care provider. She spent her days looking after small children while their parents went to work.

Noting that the best advice she can offer is to pray and live life to the fullest, she emphasized that God will always make a way, especially when one prays. Currently, she spends her days sitting and relaxing outside on her porch, and watching persons in her neighbourhood move about.

“The world is totally different now. Everything has changed” said the centenarian while she showed the Ms Nyiida Andrews photos of her and her family on her wall. She also took the opportunity to reminisce on the ‘good old days’, recounting fond memories from her childhood.

Following the rich dialogue, Ms. Andrews then presented the centenarian, Ms. Pascal, with her Certificate of Honour and Achievement for her contributions to the development of Trinidad and Tobago, a hamper courtesy NAMDEVCO and a birthday cake from key partner, Kiss Baking Company. Ms. Pascal was indeed grateful for the recognition and tokens, and wished blessings upon those present.

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services was pleased to honour Ms. Pascal as part of the National Centenarian Programme and invite persons to register 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).



New centenarian, Marie Pascal, shows her Certificate of Honour and Achievement for her contributions to the development of Trinidad and Tobago



Inspector I attached to the Ministry's Division of Ageing, Nyiida Andrews, and Centenarian, Marie Pascal, share a light moment during the visit to her Laventille home



A photo of Marie Pascal in her younger days.