



MEDIA RELEASE

June 5, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Priority: **HIGH**

Minister Cox distributes letters of appointment to Victoria West Local Board Members

Following the recent appointment of the new board members to the Ministry's various Local Board offices, five more persons accepted the call to serve on the Victoria West Local Board. Members were presented with their letters of appointment by Senator the Honourable Donna Cox, Minister of Social Development and Family Services during a brief ceremony that took place on June 5, 2023 at the Ministry's Head Office, St Vincent Street, Port of Spain.

The Board is expected to serve for a period of three (3) years and will act as a liaison between clients and the Ministry. Their core duties include controlling, directing and assisting the Local Boards in administering these core grants and where necessary, performing the duties of any of the Ministry's local boards.

During her brief address, Minister Cox thanked the members for their willingness and enthusiasm to serve on this very important board, and assured them that the Ministry remains steadfast in its commitment to those citizens who are most in need of temporary support, and in some instances, long-term assistance to be able to make positive changes in their personal lives, their communities, our society and national economy.

She also encouraged the members of the board to act as agents of effective and efficient social services delivery, and familiarize themselves with the guiding legislations of the Social Welfare Division namely, the Senior Citizens Pension Act and the Public Assistance Act.

Minister Cox informed the new Board members that their appointment represents the Ministry's continued efforts to achieving the national strategic goals outlined in the National Development Strategy (2016-2030)/ Vision 2030 regarding the eradication of poverty and the enhancement of the lives of the vulnerable.

Board members who received their letters of appointment were:

- Annette Valdez
- Reginald Gill
- Alicia Nicole Legere
- Aaron S. Mohammed

- Kristian C. Taylor

Also in attendance were Permanent Secretary, Lenor Baptiste-Simmons; Deputy Permanent Secretaries, Ryan Ramcharan and Wendy Guy-Hernandez.

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services remains committed to enhancing the lives of vulnerable citizens.

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Minister Cox delivers remarks during the brief ceremony held at the Ministry to distribute letters of appointment to Victoria West Local Board Members



(l-r) Aaron S. Mohammed, Kristian C. Taylor, Minister Cox, Annette Valdez, Alicia Nicole Legere and Reginald Gill



Minister Cox presents a letter of appointment to one of the newly appointed board members of Victoria West, Aaron S. Mohammed