



## MEDIA RELEASE

October 11, 2023

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Priority: HIGH

#### I love money, but I don't crave it- says Sando Centenarian

I love money, but I don't crave it- those were the words of Josephine Manwaring, one of the country's latest centenarian on the occasion of her birthday on October 10. Born in George Village, Tableland, the now resident of Lower Hillside, San Fernando was one of four children, including a twin brother who died at age 68. Mama, as she is fondly called, speaks Hindi having grown up in a multicultural community, where her East Indian neighbours would have provided support to her mother with her and her siblings after the death of her father.

A mother of 17, with over 134 grandchildren, great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren, she married her husband Stephen in 1954. Considered a jack of all trades, she held many jobs ranging from a worker in the cocoa and cane fields to a vendor in the San Fernando market. In spite of her hard work, she still found time to be heavily involved in ballroom dance.

She believes that being nice to people and going to Church is the secret to her long life and added that she never quarrelled with anyone in her life and has no enemies. Her family members boast that she still wants to dress the way she wants, bathes herself and still cooks and bakes, with some minor assistance.

Representatives from the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS) visited the home of Mrs. Manwaring on Tuesday October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and presented her with her Certificate of Honour and Achievement, birthday cake sponsored by the Kiss Baking Company and fruit hamper courtesy of NAMDEVCO.

The Ministry was pleased to honour Mrs. Manwaring under the Ministry's National Centenarian Programme and encourage persons to register via the Ministry's website at [www.social.gov.tt](http://www.social.gov.tt) to 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](mailto:opic@social.gov.tt). For more information, persons may contact the Division of Ageing at 623 – 2608; Ext 2001 to 2009, or 800-OPIC (6742)

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#### **For more information:**

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Ms Sophia Kennedy, Inspector 1-MSDFS' Division of Ageing presents Mrs. Josephine Manwaring with her Certificate of Honour



Mrs Manwaring pictured with some of her children, grandchildren and great children at her home in San Fernando.