Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Ministry of Social Development and Family Services

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Black and Gold Affair birthday celebration for New Centenarian Agatha Murray

Port of Spain: New centenarian Agatha Murray may have been born in St George's, Grenada, but she is 'Trini to the bone.' At a celebration to mark this significant milestone, Ms Murray expressed her gratitude for reaching 100 and for the warmth and support of Trinidad and Tobago.

"I want to thank everyone tonight for coming to my birthday party, and I thank everybody who offered me something or appreciated me. I was born in Grenada, but I came to Trinidad at the age of seventeen years. I love it here, and I think that I am a Trinidadian, right now and always, because Trinidad and Tobago is taking care of me, so I have to thank them for that. I worked in the hospital for twenty-eight years, and I was well treated," said Ms. Murray, who worked as a Nursing Assistant at the Port of Spain General Hospital.

"When I was born, I was puny, and they say I wouldn't live, but my mother took care of me, and I lived to this age thank you—very much. I thank the Trinidad and Tobago government very much. I would thank Grenada, but I was just born there. I could have been born anywhere and I could of lived anywhere. I am a born Trinidadian now," she continued. She also expressed her gratitude for her great health, noting, "I have no diabetes, no hypertension, and no heart issues. I can read without my glasses. Praise the Lord for a long, fruitful, and productive life."

The 'black and gold affair' was held on her birthday, November 8th, 2024 at the Ahh-Venue in St. James. Minister of Social Development and Family Service, Senator the Honourable Donna Cox joined the celebration to honour Ms. Murray who credits her longevity to hard work and prayer.

In her brief remarks, Minister Cox conveyed her congratulations to the centenarian and encouraged others to continue registering for the programme so as to ensure that persons who contributed to the development of our country are recognised and celebrated. Minister Cox then presented the mother of three, grandmother of sixteen, and great-grandmother of twenty-five with her Centenarian medal, Certificate of Honour and Achievement, along with hampers and a birthday cake sponsored by Vemco, National Flour Mills Ltd., and the Kiss Baking Company Ltd.

To register for the National Centenarian Programme, please visit the Ministry's website at www.social.gov.tt to complete the online form or print a downloadable form for completion.

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, contact

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Senator the Honourable Donna Cox, Minister of Social Development and Family Services, presents Ms. Murray with her Certificate of Honour and Achievement.



Minister Cox and new centenarian Ms. Agatha Murray, share a light-hearted moment during the 100^{th} birthday celebration.



Minister Cox, Ms. Murray, along with friends and loved ones, gather for a group photo during Ms. Murray's 100th birthday celebration on November 8, 2024, in St. James.