



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ivy May Forde celebrates her 100th birthday

On October 28, 2024, Jamaica native Ms. Ivy May Forde will celebrate her 100th birthday. This remarkable centenarian attributes her longevity to several secrets, including daily prayer, seeking God, eating the right foods in moderation, staying active, ensuring she takes her tonic and getting lots of rest. An intimate celebration was hosted in honour of the achievement on Friday 25th October, 2024 in St. James. Joining the celebration was Senator the Honourable, Donna Cox, Minister of Social Development and Family Services. Other distinguished guests included the Honourable Keith Scotland SC, Minister in the Ministry of National Security and Member of Parliament for Port-of-Spain South and His Worship Alderman Chinua Alleyne, Mayor of Port of Spain.

Ms. Forde possesses a remarkable memory and a sharp wit. In her remarks, she reflected on the experiences that have shaped her journey. When asked to share a few words in front of such a large audience, she humorously noted, "a few words, there are so many people here and you want to limit me." She reminisced about her days with Dr. Eric Williams, emphasising the importance of unity and love among people. She further encouraged everyone to live together, love one another, and stay connected.

In celebrating Ms. Forde's birthday, Minister Cox encouraged persons to register and inform the Ministry of anyone they know who is one hundred years old or nearing that milestone for the National Centenarian Programme. She emphasised that although there are over two hundred individuals on the Ministry's register, this figure may not accurately reflect the centenarian population within the country. Minister Cox also commended the Ministry's Division of Ageing for their unwavering commitment to the Programme. Following her remarks, she presented Ms. Forde with her Centenarian medal, Certificate of Honour and Achievement, along with hampers and a birthday cake graciously provided by sponsors Vemco, National Flour Mills, and Kiss Baking Company.

The Ministry was pleased to honour Ms. Forde and encourages persons to register your loved one for the Programme, persons are encouraged to visit the Ministry's website at www.social.gov.tt to complete the online form or contact the Division of Ageing at 623-2608, Ext. 2001 to 2009, or 800-OPIC (6742).

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Minister Cox presents Ms. Forde with her Certificate of Honour and Achievement.



Ms. Forde stands proudly after receiving her medal from Minister Cox.



(l-r) The Honourable Keith Scotland SC, Minister in the Ministry of National Security and Member of Parliament for Port-of-Spain South; His Worship Alderman Chinua Alleyne, Mayor of Port of Spain; Ms. Ivy May Forde; Minister Cox; and Ms. Forde's only child, Lilly, pose for a photo following the formal proceedings.