



**Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago**  
**Ministry of Social Development and Family Services**

**Communications Unit**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Tuesday March 25, 2025**

**Ministry of Social Development and Family Services**  
**Expands Parenting Workshops Nationwide**

**Port of Spain, March 25, 2025**– The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS) today, Tuesday March 25, 2025 rewarded the achievements of parents, caregivers, and guardians who successfully completed the Community-Based Parenting Workshops at locations in Arima and Diego Martin in November 2024, at a certificate distribution ceremony at City Hall, Port of Spain. Building on the success of this initiative, the Ministry also announced the expansion of the programme to sixteen (16) additional communities, ensuring that more families across Trinidad and Tobago benefit from this essential support.

Addressing the certificate distribution ceremony and launch of the Community-Based Parenting Workshops, Senator the Honourable Donna Cox, Minister of Social Development and Family Services, highlighted the critical role parenting plays in shaping a strong and stable society. She noted that families are the bedrock of our society and it is the Government's view that a strong family unit contributes to the nation's development.

*"Families are the foundation of our nation's well-being, development, and safety. Through these workshops, parents and caregivers have gained invaluable skills, built support networks, and taken meaningful steps toward raising responsible and productive citizens,"* the Minister stated.

In response to the overwhelming success of the initiative, the Ministry is expanding the Parenting Workshops, ensuring that more families benefit from this transformative programme. The new locations include:

1. San Juan
2. Arouca
3. Carapichaima
4. Upper Laventille
5. Lower Laventille
6. Pleasantville
7. Chaguanas
8. Enterprise
9. Penal/Siparia
10. Aranjuez/El Socorro
11. Coal Mine/Sangre Grande

12. Santa Cruz
13. Morvant
14. Maloney
15. Carenage
16. Belmont

This expansion reaffirms the Ministry's commitment to equipping parents with practical tools to navigate modern challenges, including digital-age parenting, fostering positive discipline, and strengthening family bonds.

The Ministry encourages all citizens to take advantage of these free workshops, which aim to empower parents and caregivers with skills that promote positive family relationships and community well-being. The successful participants are recognized as ambassadors of strong family values, inspiring others to build homes rooted in love, respect, and understanding.

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**For more information:**

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**Caption:** Senator the Honourable Donna Cox, Minister of Social Development and Family Services, delivers the feature address at the Certificate Distribution Ceremony and Launch of the Community-Based Parenting Workshops.



**Caption:** Minister Donna Cox, Ryan Ramcharan, Permanent Secretary (ag.) and Wendy Guy-Hernandez, Deputy Permanent Secretary with participants who successfully completed the Community-Based Parenting Workshops. Mary Bastien, Director National Family Services (5<sup>th</sup> from left.)



**Photo 3:** Minister Cox presents a certificate to Ms. Nisha Chaitram who successfully completed the Arima Community-Based parenting workshop.



**Caption:** Minister Cox proudly awards a certificate to Mr. Saoul George, a parent who has successfully completed the Diego Martin Community-Based parenting workshop.



**Caption:** Minister Cox speaks with some of the participants of the parenting workshop