



**ADDRESS BY THE MINISTER OF THE PEOPLE AND
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

SENATOR THE HONOURABLE DONNA COX

COMMUNITY DIAPER DISTRIBUTION

SUNDAY JUNE 20, 2021

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?” — Martin Luther King, Jr.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Good Morning!

It is truly my honor to extend greetings on this momentous occasion to the single parents of the Laventille community. Throughout the years, the Loveuntil Foundation has been a beacon of hope, seeking to provide a better way of living to the community physically, spiritually, emotionally, mentally and socially. The foundation has reminded all citizens of the importance of enhancing and empowering persons not only in Laventille but throughout the Country, whether through the community outreaches or the recently introduced home gardening workshops. Teaching others the benefits of growing what you eat and eating what you grow is truly remarkable, as it promotes a consistent, self-sufficient lifestyle. Your dedication to this project speaks volumes about your commitment towards selfless service to others. Today’s Diaper distribution falls directly in line

with the mandate of the Ministry. Guided by the tenets ‘Helping, Empowering and Transforming Lives’, the Ministry *also* seeks to empower its clientele through rehabilitative and skill enhancement initiatives, which promote human prosperity in the context of sustainable development.

I was raised by a God-fearing mother who made me read the bible and instilled in me proper values. Values which have served me well in my life. I was taught the importance of a good deed and a kind word from a very young age. That to whom much is given, much is required and thus we should pay it forward and take care of those who are not always able to take care of themselves. The Bible reminds us that we should not neglect to do good and share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

I can only hope that this diaper drive, put together by the Laventille District of SDA Churches and Loveuntil Foundation will go a long way towards brightening the

lives of families across Trinidad and Tobago. May it also, like a lighted candle, spark love in the hearts of many, to continually strive to do more good deeds.

I am so very thankful for all the work you do for this social cause, for those who are actually so very much in need. We are a blessed country and we must continue to do all in our power to help, empower and transform the lives of the most vulnerable communities in our country. Your deeds shine a light and serve as an inspiration for persons from all faith traditions. I am committed to working with everyone here this morning to make Trinidad & Tobago a better, safer country. A country where everyone can have a sustainable life.

To the hardworking single parents here with us this morning, I truly admire the strength it takes one person to take on two roles. You are all superheroes. I simply do not think there is a greater task, to be the only adult in a child's life. I would like to let you know what you do every day

does not go unnoticed; don't ever underestimate how much your children appreciate or admire you. They may not be able to express it yet, but one day they will realize the great lengths you have gone to meet their needs. I honor all of you.

In closing, I take this opportunity to warmly congratulate the management and staff of the NGO Unit for their vision in starting this drive today. This is a time for us to focus on the things that bring us together as one people, one family and one community. I look forward to our continued partnership in the future as we serve our vulnerable and less fortunate citizens.

I want to wish everyone here health, long life and prosperity. Thank you. God bless you.