



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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MEDIA RELEASE

Police, Volunteer Mediators Join Muslim Community to Reduce Community Conflict, Violence

Several members of the Muslim faith were given the tools and skills needed to enhance their prevention and response to conflict and violence that may arise in their families and communities.

In the one-day workshop, 'Better Parenting, Family, Community,' on September 17th, at the Nur-E-Islam Masjid, El Socorro, San Juan, police and volunteer mediators of the St Joseph Police Youth Club's (SJPYC) Community Conflict Resolution Centre (CCRC), addressed the root causes of tension, conflict and violence that occur in the home, community and institutions of society.

The workshop included sessions on conflict management, de-escalation, resolution communication skills for parents and children, parenting; discipline versus punishment, active and present, listening; and the law and you.

It was bolstered by the Officium Training Ltd, headed by Jeneice De Coteau, founder and senior mediator.

The workshop was inspired after the CCRC intervention in Mt D'Or on August 13th, which foiled an ongoing conflict between two parties. The men have since had their qualms settled peacefully. Following the outreach, representatives of the Masjid reached out to have the CCRC do some intervention in their community as well.

Coordinator of the CCRC and Leader of the SJPYC, WPC Sascha Williams-Goddard said conflict is not unique to any particular person, group, faith, or race, and educating key individuals in communities on the triggers will redound to safer places and a more tolerant society.

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She said, “The highlight of the day was seeing parents allowing themselves to be vulnerable about their childrearing challenges and allow our facilitators to guide them through managing their real situations to increase their family’s response to modern-day familial problems.”

At its first meeting on May 18th at the St Joseph Community Centre, St. Joseph, there were over 50 volunteers and professionals in attendance who pledged their support to assist the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service’s fight against crime, particularly domestic violence and conflicts, through the CCRC.

Since registration began on May 11th, 169 volunteers enlisted, spanning organisations such as the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, the University of the Southern Caribbean and various non-governmental and faith-based organisations.

SEE ACCOMPANYING PHOTOGRAPHS

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