



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Public Administration and Artificial Intelligence

Media Release

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MINISTER SMITH SUPPORTS LEARNING AND EMPOWERMENT THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

The Ministry of Public Administration and Artificial Intelligence has donated 24 refurbished desktop computers to three non-governmental organisations in support of **National Literacy Month**.

The computers were presented to Abide Trinidad, The Shelter, and the Girl Guides Association of Trinidad and Tobago, organisations that provide critical support, development opportunities and empowerment programmes for women, girls and young people.

Speaking on the initiative, Senator the Honourable Dominic Smith, Minister of Public Administration and Artificial Intelligence said that access to technology has become increasingly important for education, skills development, and participation in modern society. He noted that partnering with organisations already working directly with vulnerable communities allows technology to reach people where it can have an immediate and meaningful impact.

“Literacy today is about more than the ability to read and write. It is also about having the tools and confidence to access information, develop new skills and participate fully in society. These computers can support homework, training, research, employment opportunities and the important programmes these organisations already provide,” Minister Smith said.

He added that the Ministry's focus on inclusion extends beyond putting government services online. It also requires expanding access to the technology, connectivity, and skills that enable citizens to benefit from those services and the wider opportunities available in a rapidly evolving society.

Minister Smith said the donation was particularly meaningful during **National Literacy Month**, as it reinforces the relationship between access, learning and empowerment. “Technology should open doors. When equipment that can still provide value is placed in the hands of organisations serving our communities, we extend its useful life while creating new opportunities for the people who need them.”

Abide Trinidad provides life-skills training, social programmes, etiquette workshops and transitional housing support for vulnerable and orphaned girls. The Shelter supports survivors of domestic violence and their children through safe accommodation, education, advocacy and empowerment initiatives, while the Girl Guides Association of Trinidad and Tobago promotes the development of girls and young women through the national Girl Guide movement.

The Ministry will continue to support initiatives that expand access to technology, connectivity and skills, particularly where these interventions can strengthen learning, build confidence and create greater opportunities for citizens and communities.

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