



St Rose-Greaves unveils...

New initiative to nurture caring youth

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Government is moving to establish a National Youth Volunteerism Programme to encourage young people to be more caring and less individualistic. This was revealed by Gender Affairs, Youth and Child Development Minister Verna St Rose-Greaves during yesterday's post Cabinet news conference at the Diplomatic Centre in St Ann's. St Rose-Greaves said the initiative was being implemented jointly with civil society groups in T&T. She said it seeks to nurture a sense of being organised in youths, of caring and to move away from being "individualistic."

She said it would have a significant and positive impact on young people and will encourage them to participate in national development and national decision-making. She said non-financial rewards would be given to participants during the programme. St Rose-Greaves said the programme would involve students from primary, secondary, tertiary institutions and youth camps. Meanwhile, Trade and Industry Minister Stephen Cadiz, also spoke at the news conference. He said the Government was about to establish a National Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme. He said the project, to cost just under \$2 million, was being funded in the main by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Cadiz said the national corporate social responsibility is a continuing commitment by business entities to continue operating in a manner that meets or exceeds the ethical, legal, commercial and public expectations that society has of the private sector. Cadiz said the Government was using CSR as another tool in attracting foreign direct investment . Both Cadiz and St Rose-Greaves said they maintain the objection to the resumption of hangings in T&T. St Rose-Greaves said if and when legislation is put to a vote in the Senate her position would be known. She insisted however that she remains against it. Cadiz said despite his objection he remained committed to the Prime Minister and would exercise collective responsibility when his vote is required on the matter.

Source: <http://www.guardian.co.tt/news/2012-01-26/new-initiative-nurture-caring-youth>