### Press Release

# 16 Days of Activism 2024: "Towards Beijing +30: UNiTE to End Violence Against Women and Girls"

The Network of NGOs of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women is proud to launch its campaign for the **16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence**, joining the global movement to end violence against women and girls. This year, the theme, "*Towards Beijing* +30: *UNiTE to End Violence Against Women and Girls*," underscores the commitments made nearly three decades ago at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing.

The persistence of gender-based violence in all its forms—domestic abuse, sexual violence, trafficking, and harassment—reminds us of the work still required to achieve a society free from fear and harm. The 16 days of Activism, from November 25 to December 10, 2024, aims to bring us closer to fulfilling the promise of a world where every woman and girl can thrive without the threat of violence.

This campaign also coincides with several globally significant dates that amplify its message:

- November 25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- November 29: International Human Rights Defenders Day
- December 1: World AIDS Day
- December 6: Anniversary of the Montreal Massacre (École Polytechnique tragedy in Canada)
- December 10: Human Rights Day

Each of these dates underscores the interconnectedness of human rights, equality, and the urgent need to address gender-based violence.

## **A Call to Action**

As we embark on this year's 16 Days of Activism, the Network of NGOs calls on individuals, communities, and institutions to:

- Educate: Learn about the realities of gender-based violence and its impact.
- Advocate: Support stronger laws and policies to protect survivors and address perpetrators.
- Challenge Norms: Speak out against harmful rhetoric and behaviors.
- **Participate:** Attend community events, volunteer, and donate to organizations working to end violence.

This is more than a campaign; it is a movement toward justice and equality. Together, we can end violence, break cycles of abuse, and create a society where every woman and girl can live with dignity, freedom, and safety.

Stand with us. Speak out. Take action. End Violence. End Inequality. End the Silence.

# **Community Events to Drive Change**

The Network of NGOs is supporting and collaborating with local organizations to host impactful events that empower survivors, educate the public, and inspire action.

# • The Rape Crisis Society Silent Walk and Vigil

- o **Date:** Sunday, December 1st
- o **Time:** 4.30pm
- **Venue:** meet at the CreateFutureGood office on Chancery Lane, Port of Spain (behind the NAPA building).
- Description: Join the Rape Crisis Society in a silent walk and vigil to honor survivors and remember those whose lives were tragically lost to violence. Let this be a moment of reflection, solidarity, and commitment to ending gender-based violence.

#### • "Dare to Soar: A Girl's Confidence Development Workshop"

- o **Date:** Thursday, November 30th
- o **Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- o Venue: 11-13 Fitzblackman Drive South, Woodbrook, Port of Spain
- Description: This free workshop, hosted by the Network of NGOs, is designed for girls aged 12–16 and aims to foster confidence, resilience, and assertiveness. It is a powerful step toward empowering the next generation to break cycles of inequality and thrive.

We urge parents, guardians, and community leaders to spread the word and ensure the young girls in their lives benefit from this transformative experience.

### **Resources for Survivors of Gender-Based Violence**

In addition to these events, we remind the public that resources are available to support survivors:

- 1. The Rape Crisis Society of Trinidad and Tobago Hotline: (868) 627-7273
- 2. The National Domestic Violence Hotline Hotline: 800-SAVE (7283)
- 3. The Family Planning Association of Trinidad and Tobago (FPATT) Contact: (868) 623-4764, 623-5169, 627-6732
- 4. The Women's Institute for Alternative Development (WINAD) Contact: (868) 680-0354
- 5. **The Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CADV)** Contact: (868) 627-6844, (868) 624-0402

These and other organizations are dedicated to providing the support, advocacy, and education necessary to end the cycle of violence and foster a safer society for all.

## For more information, event details, or media inquiries, contact:

Tricia McIntosh

Director of Public Relations

Network of NGOs of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women

Email: triciamcintosh9@gmail.com

Phone: 1(868)799-6120