

Ministry of Public Security

Lot 6 Brickdam, Georgetown, Guyana



February 14, 2020.

For Immediate Release

CITIZEN SECURITY STRENGTHENING PROGRAMME (CSSP) **ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS TRAINING GRADUATION**

Georgetown Guyana- Thirty-Six Young Guyanese has once again graduated from a 12-week entrepreneurial skills-training programme, facilitated under Citizen Security Strengthening Programme of the Minister of Public Security, on February 13, 2020. This is the third batch of a total of one hundred and twenty-three graduands who were trained in entrepreneurial skills, and have each received a grant of G\$ 312,750 (US\$1,500), to start their businesses.



Hon. Minister Khemraj Ramjattan, CSSP and SBB Partners with Graduands

Minister of Public Security Hon. Khemraj Ramjattan in his featured remarks at the graduation ceremony, expressed satisfaction in the results of the Citizen Security Strengthening Programme (CSSP)-Entrepreneurial Skills Training component, noting that it serves as a prevention measure for crime and violence. He further noted that the decline in crime Guyana has experienced over the past five years, is not only as a result of law enforcement, but also because of the process started under the CSSP, of ensuring that community officers engage at-risk youth, that could have otherwise been distracted in negative activities. The Government he added, has increasingly recognized that entrepreneurship and the inspiration of empowered youth can drive economic development and alleviates poverty.

Project Manager of CSSP Dr. Clement Henry and Chief Executive Officer of the Small Business Bureau (SBB) Dr. Lowell Porter, both encouraged the graduands to think big, work hard, Keep the fight and remain focus, to ensure the success of their businesses. Community Action Officer of CSSP and Project Coordinator of SBB also extended congratulations to the graduands for their excellent achievement.

Background

The Citizen Security Strengthening Programme (CSSP), as a part of its mandate to contribute to reducing crime and violence in 20 communities across Regions 3, 4, 5, 6 & 10, contracted the Small Business Bureau (SBB) to train two hundred (200) at-risk youths. These youths were drawn from identified vulnerable communities from the named regions to be trained in entrepreneurship over the life of the Project, which commenced in January 2019. The training was designed to provide participants with the basic skills and knowledge necessary to successfully start or enhance their businesses in their chosen sector. Participants were trained for a

period of twelve weeks in Financial Fitness, Marketing, Customer Service, Money Management, Record Keeping, and Business Plan Writing.

Further, participants also put their skills to work through engaging in two 1-day business challenges, where they were grouped and given a sum of money to work together to execute business for that day.

Moreover, a Workbook was issued to trainees at the beginning of the training that addressed content which helped them to develop a Business Plan. Each participant was therefore required to submitted a business plan at the end of training, which was evaluated and once viable, a grant was approved for the starting up of that business.

The followings communities are the beneficiaries of the Entrepreneurial Skills Training Programme:

- Region 4 Communities who received this training

-  Sophia
-  North & South R/veldt
-  Albuoystown
-  Mocha
-  Annandale/Lusignan
-  Haslington/Enmore
-  Buxton-Vigilance
-  Alberttown
-  Agricola
-  West Ruimveldt/La-Penitence

- Region 5/6 communities who received this training Albion/Fyrish

-  Fridndship/Kildonan
-  Rose Hall/Port Mourant
-  Angoy's Avenue
-  Rosignol
-  Canefield/Adelphi

Batch #	Duration	Regions Reached	Number of youths reached	Status
1	January – May 2019	4	23	Graduated and received grants.
		6	15	
2	May – August 2019	4	28	Graduated and received grants.
		6	21	
3	September – December 2019	4	21	Graduating Today
		10	15	
TOTAL TRAINED TO DATE			123	
4	January – May 2020	4	19	Currently in Training
		5 & 6	24	

The CSSP Entrepreneurial Skills Training Programme is a successful tool geared towards reducing crime and violence in Guyana.



Graduand receiving certificate from Hon. Minister Ramjattan



Graduand receiving certificate from CEO of SBB Dr. Lowell Porter



Graduand receiving certificate from Project Manager of CSSP Dr. Clement Henry

End