



PRESS RELEASE

MINISTRY OF EQUITY, SOCIAL JUSTICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

4TH FLOOR, GREAHAM LOUISY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, WATERFRONT CASTRIES, SAINT LUCIA

For Immediate Release

Press
Release

November 7, 2019



Saint Lucia Social Development Fund (SSDF) host the BNTF 9 Signing Ceremony for the Monchy Early Childhood Development Centre Construction Sub Project

Presently the Monchy community does not offer any Public Early Childhood Educational Service and therefore in response to this urgent need, the Saint Lucia Social Development Fund (SSDF) in collaboration with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the Government of Saint Lucia have embarked on the construction of a new Early Childhood Centre under the ninth (9th) cycle of the Basic Need trust fund (BNTF9).

On Wednesday November 6th, 2019 the Saint Lucia Social Development Fund (SSDF) hosted the BNTF9 Signing Ceremony for the Early Childhood Facility near the proposed construction site at Monchy.

Executive Director of the Saint. Lucia Social Development Fund (SSDF) Allison Mathurin stated that children who receive Early Childhood supervision are less likely to drop out of school or engage in criminal activity.

“Early childhood development is tied to the development of children throughout their life and they are more likely to become productive students and citizens. They are also less likely to drop out of school or engage in criminal activities. We the people must be very grateful for the gift from the Caribbean Development Bank.”

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The Tendering process for the construction of the facility was awarded to HL Construction Ltd.

The new facility will be approximately four thousand (4000) square feet with five (5) classrooms, administrative area, sickbay, child and adult washrooms with accommodation for physically challenged children, kitchen, open eating area and external playing area.

The building will accommodate approximately 60 students including infants, toddlers' preschoolers and physically challenged students.

The facility will be constructed at an estimated cost of EC1.2 Million Dollars.



Minister for Equity, Social Justice, Local Government and Empowerment Hon. Lenard Montoute commended the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and stated that the facility will provide young working mothers with a supervised venue for the development of their children.

“Today is a happy day for me and I do hope that monchy residents share the same view. I do hope after this facility is completed and opened that it will provide young working mothers with a supervised venue for developing children.”

With the right interventions at the right time early childhood programmes can bolster development, break intergenerational cycles of inequity and provide a fair start in life for every child.

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