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For Immediate Release

Tower Street inmates to benefit from End Violence Project



Senator Parnel Charles Jr. speaks with inmates at the launch of the End Violence Project at Tower Street Adult Correctional Centre

Inmates at the Tower Street Adult Correctional Centre are poised to benefit from the recent launch of the End Violence Project.

The project, scheduled to take place over six months, will encourage inmates to identify a missing element within their environment and design an initiative to fill the gap.

Addressing the inmates at the launch on July 7, State Minister in the Ministry of National Security, Senator Pearnel Charles Jr., lauded the initiative.

He stated *“it is important for inmates to participate in these initiatives so they can start making a life change towards becoming productive members of society even before they reintegrate into their communities.”*

The project was first launched in the St. Catherine Adult Correctional Centre and was born out of a need for leadership training and transformational thinking within the prison population.

Lead Facilitator of the End Violence Project, Coral Crew Noble, highlighted that the objective of the programme is to provide a structure for ongoing support for community projects committed to ending violence.

One inmate spoke of his expectations for the programme: *“I am grateful for this project and I am looking forward to implementing my own project, especially as it relates to the physical absence of fathers who are incarcerated, as many of us*

now face these situations because of the absence of a father figure to give that positive direction in our lives. ”

During its pilot phase at the St. Catherine facility, the project saw inmates developing various programmes such as the “Education for Change Initiative”, which facilitated prison education for crime reduction, the “Becoming a Leader Programme” which used leadership as a tool to curb violence, and the “Beyond the Walls Initiative”, which was a 45-week talk show aired on Free FM that shared the positive happenings within the institution.

Through the End Violence Project, inmates will provide weekly updates on their projects as well as receive coaching on how to overcome challenges and apply the tools of leadership across all areas of their lives.

The DCS expects to continue the expansion of this project to adult correctional facilities across the island.

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Senator Pearnel Charles Jr. (centre) is flanked by Lead facilitator of the End Violence Project, Coral Crew-Noble (2nd left), Mr. Oliver Mair (1st left), Kera-Lloye Smith (3rd right), Martin McHugh (2nd right) and Policy Manager within the Ministry of National Security, Juliet Dougherty (1st right)



An inmate shares his experiences with Senator Pearnel Charles Jr. during the launch of the End Violence Project