



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS &
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
TELEPHONE 754-0030/619-6017/878-0528
FAX: 754-3601

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY
NCB NORTH TOWER
2 OXFORD ROAD
KINGSTON 5
JAMAICA

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State Minister Spencer sees a bright future for the juveniles at South Camp facility

Minister of State in the Ministry of National Security, Hon. Rudyard Spencer has stated that the rehabilitation projects implemented in the Department of Correctional Services (DCS) have laid the foundation for a bright future for the wards at the South Camp Juvenile Remand and Correctional Centre.

The South Camp facility, which houses young girls aged 12-17 years who have come into conflict with the law has also started the delivery of educational and psycho- social services to 47 girls this month. This involves personal development activities including yoga classes, sports and the We Transform Competition and Exposition.

Speaking on tour of the facility today, the Minister said, ***“I have a passion for empowering the children in our juvenile institutions and probation after-care services. I will do everything in my power to continue the positive and impactful projects that are helping them. We must continue to get this right.”***

Minister Spencer noted that these programmes have been particularly beneficial in building the morale and relationship between wards and officers charged with overseeing their welfare. He lauded the commitment of the staff who continue to support the rehabilitation efforts which involve juvenile offenders working jointly with Correctional Officers to showcase their skills and talents

through creative displays of jewelry, paintings, agri-products, clothing and other artifacts.

The tour of the facility is the first in a series that Minister Spencer will be engaged in as he familiarizes himself with the operations of the DCS and those in command.

The tours will also be conducted at Metcalfe Street Secure Juvenile Remand Centre, Hill Top Juvenile Correctional Centre and Rio Cobre Juvenile Correctional Centre over the next two (2) weeks.

The DCS continues its drive to transform penal institutions into purposeful rehabilitation centres that will develop productive law abiding citizens upon release into society. This is in keeping with the Ministry of National Security's Five Pillar Crime Reduction Strategy focused on rehabilitation and redemption.