



September 19, 2017

MEDIA RELEASE

Special School Supplies Hurricane Appeal

The Emancipation Support Committee of Trinidad and Tobago (ESCTT) joins all calls for Caribbean people to give generously in support of our brothers and sisters who have lost loved one's and have suffered to effects of Hurricane Irma and /or Maria. Irma left behind a trail of pain and shattered dreams for many parents and their children. Families across Barbuda, Saint Martin, Haiti, Puerto Rico, British Virgin Islands, especially Tortola and St. John, and our brothers and sisters in Cuba have been affected. Now with the passing of Hurricane Maria, Dominica has been devastated, other islands such as St. Kitts and Nevis, Montserrat, and Antigua and Barbuda have been badly hit. We can all help.

It is the beginning of the term for most children in the Caribbean and parents in those islands affected by Hurricane Irma and Maria would have made the sacrifice to purchase school books and supplies in preparation for the new school term. They would have put the dreams for the future of their children in their school bags. As a result of the effects of the hurricane, children would now be without books and bags.

The ESCTT through this **Special School Supplies Hurricane Appeal** will seek to help to bring some hope to those families. The school supplies campaign will collect and send school supplies to all school age children in need as a result of the hurricanes. We estimate that throughout the region there could be between 20-30,000 children who may be in need.

We will start with those most in need. We are calling on families in Trinidad and Tobago to provide school supplies even for just one child who has been affected. Initially we would like to meet the needs of at least the children in Barbuda (approximately 200-300) whose homes were completely devastated; those in the BVI, particularly from Tortola that have also suffered devastation (approximately 6,000 to 7,000).

Three collection points have been established. For Port of Spain and its environs, school supplies, including copy books, note books for primary and secondary school children, pens, pencils, school bags, tools for mathematics and science subjects and art and music supplies can be left at the Emancipation House, 5B Bergerac Road, Maraval; in the South at Southern African Book Store, St George Building #6 Johnstone Street, San Fernando [next to Harry the Barber] and for those along the East West Corridor, at the Moyo School of Excellence #10 2nd Street West, Montague Avenue, Trincity.

Donations must meet the shipment of goods headed off to the Hurricane victims in the Eastern Caribbean this weekend , so all donations should be made by Friday 22 September, 2017, 4:30 PM.

For further information contact the ESCTT at 628-5008, Facebook- Emancipation Support Committee-ESC or at info@emancipationtt.org.

Khafra Kambon

Chairman