

Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

MEDIA RELEASE

October 10, 2023, Dear Editor / Head of Department,

Ministry of Education, Unicomer and TTMA Collaborate to Provide Eye Care to Primary School Students

The Ministry of Education, under its Adopt-A-School initiative, is pleased to announce its collaboration with Unicomer (Trinidad) Limited and the Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association (TTMA) to offer free vision screening to students of forty (40) of the eighty (80) Primary Schools which are part of the MOE's one hundred and six (106) Schools of Focus. With TTMA's support, eye glasses will be provided for those students in need.

The cheque handover ceremony for this pilot project took place at the Ministry of Education, #5 St Vincent Street, Port-of-Spain on Tuesday, 10th October, 2023. The TTMA provided Unicomer Limited, parent company of Courts Optical, with a cheque valued at \$20,000 TT, the first installment of a \$90,000 TT committment towards their corporate social responsibility project called 'Brighter View'. This Unicomer project is dedicated to improving eye care and visual health by offering eye exams, frames, lenses and other vision products to students in vulnerable situations or settings.

This project is intended to provide equity in educational opportunity by ensuring that the students who need it most receive support to achieve their fullest potential. In many cases, vision impairment goes undetected and hampers academic performance. As such, the MoE has committed to rolling out a vision screening exercise to identify students that can benefit from such an intervention.

While speaking at the cheque handover ceremony, the Minister of Education thanked all the stakeholders who have supported our students and continue to ensure their optimum performance in the classroom. "Let us afford our children the invaluable opportunity to be healthy, to learn, and to achieve excellence. The Ministry is steadfast in its dedication to doing all we can to guarantee that the young minds of our nation are equipped with the necessary resources to realize their full potential".

Corporate citizens who wish to participate in the Adopt-a-School Eye Care Program can contact the Ministry of Education at 628-8931 or adoptaschool@moe.gov.tt

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