

MEDIA RELEASE

April 29, 2024

HDC continues its Collection Drive

The Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation (HDC) in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation Asset Management Company Limited (AMCoL) is continuing its Collection Drive throughout the country.

It should be noted that, before a tenant is evicted, the HDC sends a Letter of Arrears to the resident. The tenant is encouraged to visit the Corporation to settle their debts or establish a payment plan. Failure to do so will result in the HDC issuing a Notice to Quit - Notices given to registered tenants who are in breach of their respective agreements - which informs the tenant they should vacate the premises. If they do not vacate the premises by the stipulated time frame they are told, in person, they will be evicted. If tenants choose to stay after all attempts have been made to recover funds, they are evicted.

As of **April 29, 2024**, 15 tenants were evicted.

These tenants did not respond to the HDC's numerous attempts to pay their arrears by way of lump sum payments or payment plans. They also did not inform the HDC of any issues or challenges that prevented them from paying their arrears and honouring their monthly commitments. The Corporation has encouraged and continues to maintain open communication with residents, and has made accommodations for tenants during times of great misfortune. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the HDC imposed a moratorium on its clients, particularly those who required social assistance and additional support.

As a result, the HDC debunks the accusations in the public domain that it is targeting specific groups of people. It also seeks to clarify the pessimistic perspective held by some that the Corporation is apathetic to the needs of the community it serves and by extension, the society. This attempt to tarnish the image of the HDC is held by a mischievous few, and not by the thousands who have benefitted from Government-subsidised housing.

The HDC must emphasise that the evictions will continue from **Tuesday, April 30, 2024**, in several housing developments across the country including:

- 1) Chaconia Crescent Housing Development, Diego Martin
- 2) Cypress Hills Housing Development, Union Hall, San Fernando
- 3) Hilltop Villas Housing Development, Malick
- 4) Real Spring Housing Development, Valsayn
- 5) Vieux Fort, St James

Following eviction, the HDC processes the unit for reallocation. It is expected that those who are evicted will honour their previous commitments to the Corporation, and settle their arrears.

It is never the intention of the HDC to evict persons from their homes. Still, this measure has become necessary to recover millions of dollars owed to the Corporation and reclaim affordable units to house those most in need.

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