



**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2020-2021**

**Digicel** Foundation

A young boy with short dark hair is sitting on a swing set, smiling broadly. He is wearing a blue and white plaid button-down shirt and blue jeans. The swing set has metal chains. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green trees and a red structure, possibly a playground or fairground. The text is overlaid on the bottom half of the image in three black boxes with white text.

**TOGETHER WE CREATE**

**A WORLD WHERE NO ONE**

**GETS LEFT BEHIND**



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# PATRON'S MESSAGE

The Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation works tirelessly to change the lives of those in need. Since inception, it has invested almost US\$5 million in over 500 projects, impacting close to 200,000 people across the country. When COVID-19 hit, the Foundation was forced to pivot and address the country's most pressing pandemic needs, delivering programmes that would make a real difference in the lives of Trinbagonians.

The Foundation provided support in communities across the country, assisting Senior Citizens, Special Needs schools, Children's Homes, Centres for Socially Displaced Persons and others hard hit by the pandemic through TT\$3.4 million (US\$500,000) in national relief funding. Understanding the needs of students in light of school closures, the Foundation also issued 1,915 devices with data plans and internet packages to help children participate in online schooling.

And though the Foundation pivoted, they did not forget the plans they had in place. As global statistics show, ICT has not traditionally been a welcoming field for women and girls. Digicel is working to change that, and was a proud partner of the Foundation's 'Girls Power Tech' event, which aims to inspire young women and girls to pursue a career in ICT. The event exposes them to technology demonstrations, influential speakers and a hackathon. Because of the pandemic, the event had to be held virtually, but that did not dampen the excitement of the 123 attendees.



The Foundation also launched the 'Masters of Prep' app to support emergency preparedness among those with special needs. In partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank-, the Trinidad & Tobago Fire Services, the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management, and the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society and ten schools, 'Masters of Prep' brings together private and public sector stakeholders to create social change. The app simulates emergencies, teaches users how to respond, and strengthens necessary life-saving skills.

The fantastic work of the Foundation is supported by our staff at Digicel Trinidad & Tobago and I want to thank them, as well as the CEO, Penny Gomez and Chairwoman, Desha Clifford. Through their leadership and dedication, we continue to create a world where no one gets left behind.

Thank You,  
Denis O'Brien



**BUILDING FUTURE  
RELATIONSHIPS**

A man with a mustache and goatee, wearing a red t-shirt and a blue and white striped athletic vest, is celebrating in a gym. He has his arms raised in a fist pump gesture. He is wearing a yellow wristband on his left wrist. The background shows gym equipment like treadmills and a bright window.

**"LET ME WIN. BUT IF I  
CANNOT WIN, LET ME BE  
BRAVE IN THE ATTEMPT**

**- SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES' OATH**

# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



What a difference a year makes!

In the midst of a global pandemic wreaking havoc, it is amazing that we have uplifting stories to share with you. So this year I'm especially proud to inform you of the successes of the Digicel Foundation, as we rose to the challenge in spite of the difficulties right here at home, and sadly, throughout the world.

From April 2020 to March 2021, the Digicel Foundation spent half a million US dollars in Trinidad and Tobago. We implemented 33 projects and impacted over 21,000 persons. Some of the highlights include the 23 new EPIC projects that mobilised community-based organisations to implement transformational projects for their communities. These new projects take us to a total of 103 successfully executed EPIC projects since we launched the initiative in 2016. If you are an EPIC partner, we share this achievement with you and we thank you for joining us in being Agents of Change. This year we also saw the upgrade of the flagship programme 'Preparing You' to include new technology as a tool to build disaster preparedness for students with disabilities. The game 'Masters of Prep' is great for everyone in your households, but please don't only take my word for it. Download it and try it for yourselves - it's free in the Google Play and Apple App Store.

In the digital sphere, our 'Girls Power Tech' made a leap into another dimension. We moved from planning a physical in-person program, to going totally virtual,

and it was indeed a memorable event. We at the Board are delighted to stand behind programmes that encourage young women to reach their full potential, particularly in the ICT field, and we were lucky to have Digicel Business and CISCO as partners in this mission.

In response to the COVID -19 restrictions which included closure of schools, the Foundation team developed its 'Connecting You' programme in an effort to equip students and teachers with both hardware and infrastructure to engage in online education. We purchased over 1,700 tablets and 200 refurbished laptops for 63 schools throughout Trinidad and Tobago. This is of great significance given that 34 of those schools are the total catchment of Special Needs schools.

Desha Clifford

## CEO'S

## MESSAGE

Unprecedented - is the only way to describe the past year. Given the distressing toll that Covid 19 has racked up over the period in several areas, I count every blessing that came our way. Resilience was required to deal with the challenges presented by the pandemic - the team was relegated to working from home, projects were stalled and we were faced with a strategic plan that did not align fully with the urgent needs of the day.

With the Board's approval, the Foundation quickly took a prudent decision to divert funds from programmes that were not high priority to newfound ones that were. The new projects ranged from masks for health care professionals to sanitizations stations, products and groceries for special needs organisations. The largest chunk of the TT \$1.8 million diverted funds went into an area that emerged as a gaping hole as we all grappled with the effects of Covid 19. I am happy to report that a positive element emerged from the scourge of the pandemic, since we were able to fast forward the total 34 special needs facilities and 29 mainstream schools into the digital world, with the provision of 1915 devices and free broadband, thanks to Digicel our parent company, for one year.

Our Extraordinary Projects Impacting Communities (EPIC) was a mainstay this past year. With an investment of TT\$627,750 (US\$93,000) we welcomed 23 new partners and impacted 17,218 persons. With the grateful assistance of Digicel Business Solutions and CISCO the Foundation also hosted its 'Girls Power Tech' - GPT event with its theme 'Creating a digital future' to encourage girls and young women to consider careers in ICT.

In spite of the cancellation of in-person learning, special educators used the opportunity to complete upgrades to their facilities. This year we ushered in the LIFE Centre and Each One Teach One as new beneficiaries to our Centres of Excellence programme. Making learning a comfortable experiences for



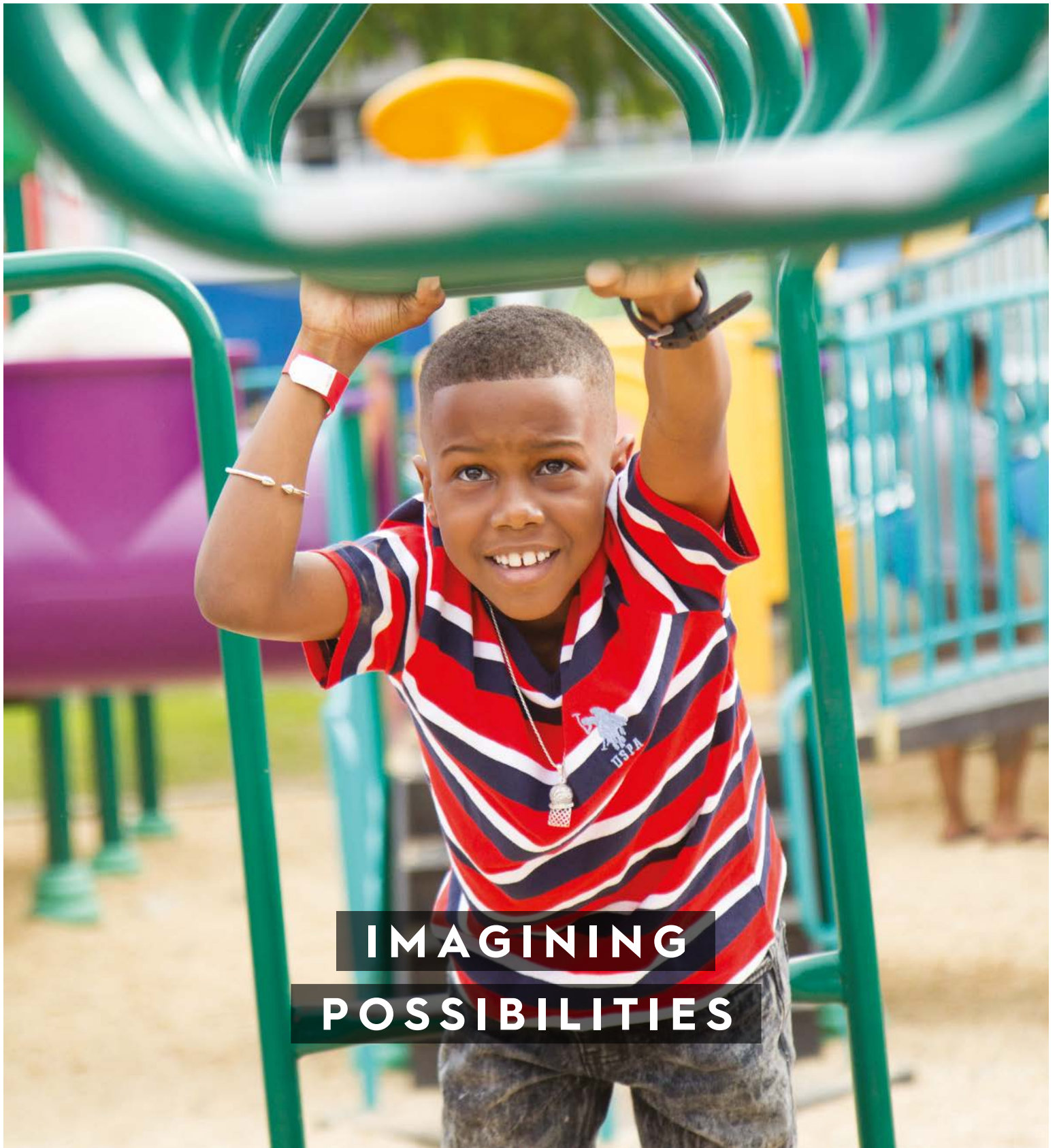
students with disabilities. 'Preparing You' - our disaster preparedness and management programme, co-funded by the Inter American Development Bank (IDB) for persons with special needs produced a digital gaming app to build disaster resilience in this period.

I want to extend my deepest appreciation to: the Foundation's Board of Directors led by our Chairperson Desha Clifford, for your guidance and ensuring we stay the course; our internal partners and volunteers who always answer the call to assist when needed; our external NGO and governmental partners who walk with us to champion the causes; our Global Chair, Maria Mulcahy for providing invaluable strategic oversight and to our Patron, Denis O'Brien for your continued commitment to development and for allowing us the wherewithal to make a difference in Trinidad and Tobago.

Finally to the Foundation's operational team. Thank you for putting your hearts into what we do and never making it seem like work. I'm proud to be on this journey with you as we continue to create a world where no one gets left behind.

Penny Gomez





**IMAGINING  
POSSIBILITIES**

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**DESHA  
CLIFFORD**  
CHAIRPERSON



**SACHA  
THOMPSON**  
SECRETARY



**JABBOR  
KAYUMOV**  
DIRECTOR



**BIBI  
MOHAMMED  
SINGH**  
DIRECTOR



**GUY  
SMALL**  
DIRECTOR



**GEORGINA  
PETERKIN**  
DIRECTOR



**ANIL  
SIEUKUMAR**  
DIRECTOR



**LAURA  
DOWRICH-  
PHILLIPS**  
DIRECTOR



**MARVIN MC  
BARNETTE**  
DIRECTOR



**TOM  
CARSON**  
DIRECTOR



**LA TOYA  
GOPAUL**  
DIRECTOR



**2020-2021**

## MEET THE TEAM



L-R: Natalie-Anne De Silva, Lynelle Callender, Alicia Hospedales, Nazmin Khan, Cindyann Currency, Diana Mathura-Hobson, Penny Gomez

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful  
committed individuals can change the world.  
In fact, it's the only thing that ever has.

- Margaret Mead

# IMPACT OVERVIEW



**83,512**  
Community  
Development



**94,842**  
Special Needs



**\$4.98m**  
USD Investment

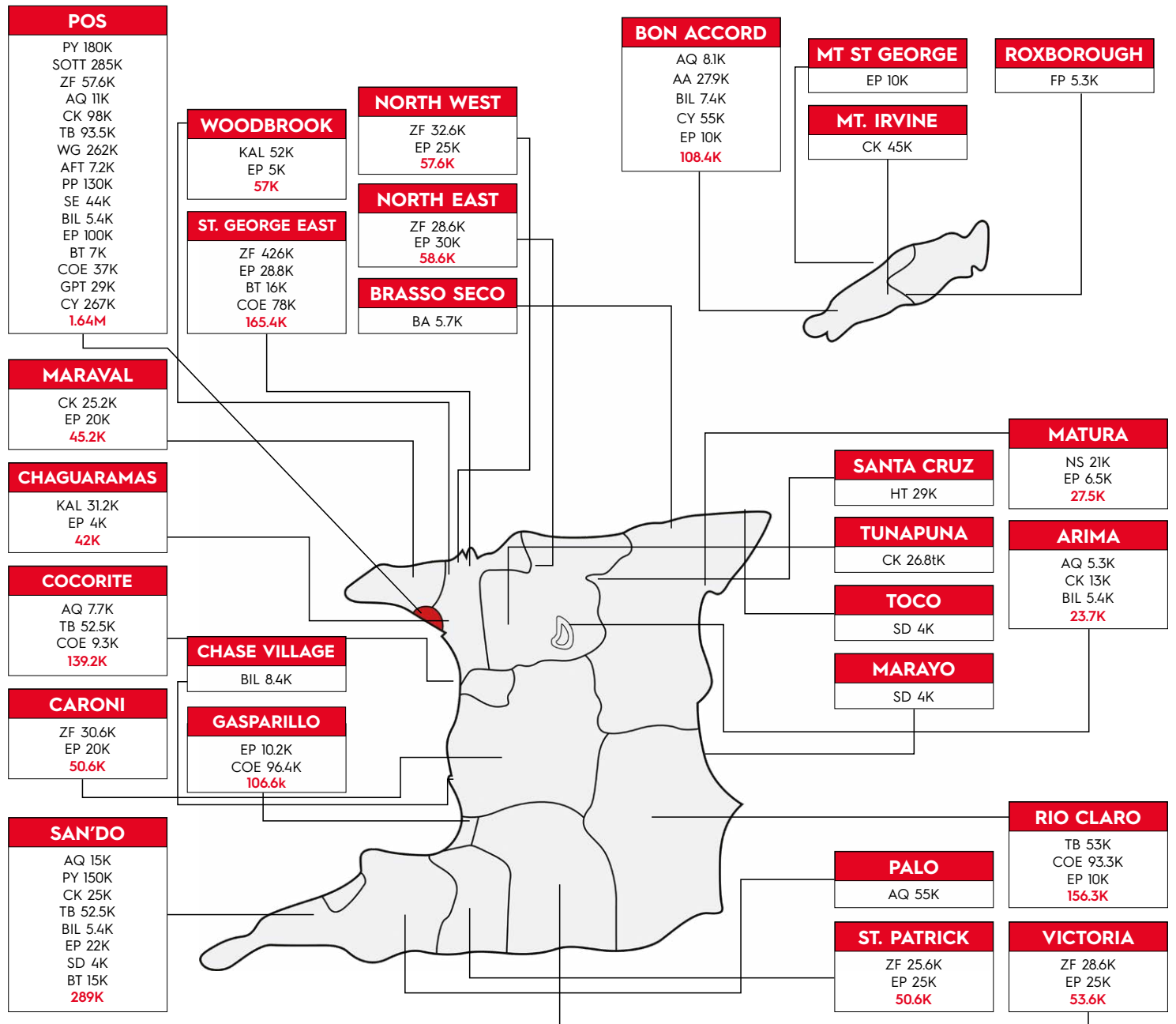


**178,354**  
Total Persons  
Impacted



**512**  
Total Projects

# PROJECT OVERVIEW



|               |    |                |     |               |    |                      |      |                      |
|---------------|----|----------------|-----|---------------|----|----------------------|------|----------------------|
| <b>LEGEND</b> | AQ | Aquaphonics    | PY  | Preparing You | SE | Social Entrepreneur  | COE  | Center of Excellence |
|               | ZF | Zippy's        | KAL | Kaleidodash   | HT | Hippotherapy         | GPT  | Girls Power Tech     |
|               | CK | CKFTO          | AA  | Arts Alive    | BA | Bee Apiary           | BT   | Better Together      |
|               | TB | Therapy Based  | AFT | AFETT         | SD | SIDC                 | CY   | Connecting You       |
|               | NS | Nature Seekers | BIL | Billboards    | EP | EPIC                 | SOTT | Special Olympics     |
|               | WG | World Games    | PP  | Playpark      | CE | Community Engagement |      |                      |
|               |    |                |     |               |    |                      |      |                      |

**TOTAL INVESTED:  
4.92 Million USD**



## SPECIAL PROJECTS

No one anticipated COVID -19 and the disastrous effects it would have on our daily lives. As a Foundation we did what we could to help our partners and those most vulnerable weather the storm. Through our COVID 19 relief efforts we provided cleaning products, food items, disposable diapers and masks. One major projects emerging out of the chaos was our thrust to connect students, helping them get prepared for online schooling.

## CONNECTING YOU

The Foundation took a decision to divert funding to the tune of TT \$1.8 million (US\$266,666) towards this project, which supplied the under-served communities with devices and high-speed internet to continue to 'live' in a new-look digitalized world. The first target group was persons with disabilities. All 34 special needs organisations, comprising 1,342 teachers and students, received devices and data service. The project then progressed to Digicel Foundation adopting 29 mainstream schools as part of a call from the Ministry of Education.

This partnership meant providing devices and data packages to an additional 573 students across primary and secondary schools, connecting students and teachers as they adjust to this new way of schooling.



By heavenly intervention our friends from Digicel Foundation stepped up to the plate. Time and time again, they have come through for us. It's our prayer that other corporate bodies can take a feather out of their cap to support students with disabilities.

Dianne Le Cointe, Principal  
Tobago Happy Haven



## COVID-19 RELIEF

As the COVID 19 virus progressed into a pandemic, the Digicel Foundation reached out to our marginalised stakeholders to ensure that they were not left behind. Through engagement efforts and a needs assessment, the Digicel Foundation provided support to special needs organisations, centres for socially displaced persons, children’s homes and homes for the elderly. These groups received food items, sanitization products, disposable diapers and some sport equipment to encourage outdoor play while on lockdown. The Digicel Foundation also donated 8,000 N95 masks to the Ministry of Health towards keeping frontline workers safe while combatting the deadly virus.





"So many parents have lost their jobs since  
 the country was advised to stay home,  
 it has become difficult for them  
 to manage without an income. Thank you  
 Digicel Foundation for thinking of us."

Phillip Metivier, President  
 Cerebral Palsy Society Trinidad and Tobago



In spite of restrictions brought on by the global COVID 19 pandemic, the Digicel Foundation was still able to engage with organisations that serve persons with special needs and partner on some transformative initiatives. The physical closure of schools did not deter the team from upgrading two special schools to 'centres of excellence'. The Foundation also hit a new milestone with the launch of its 'Masters of Prep' game app, which helps build capacity in disaster preparedness and emergency evacuation.

# BECOMING 'MASTERS OF PREP'

Who would have thought getting prepared for a disaster could be so much fun. This year the Foundation launched its 'Masters of Prep' app to help students with special needs get prepared in the event of a disaster. In the game, Captain K, the friendly mascot, a leatherback turtle, takes users on a treasure hunt to identify hazards within the home and school, prepare emergency kits and plan the most effective response during a hurricane or flood. Disaster response is serious business, and it's crucial for families to know what to do in the event of a fire, hurricane, earthquake or flood. Download 'Masters of Prep' on the Google Play and App store today. It's free, easy and fun.



'Masters of Prep' is part of our wider programme - 'Preparing You' - a disaster preparedness and management programme, co-funded by the Inter American Development Bank (IDB) for persons with special needs. The digital gaming app to builds disaster resilience. 'Masters of Prep' - takes the form of a treasure hunt to help the player prepare for a variety of disasters such as flooding, fire or an earthquake. Apart from this, in collaboration with our partners, Inter-American Development Bank, Office of the Disaster Preparedness and Management, Fire Services and the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society, four schools were engaged in training in disaster preparedness and management and outfitted with necessary safety equipment



Click Play for Becoming "Masters of Prep"



## LEARNING IN A 'CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE'

This year two new educational facilities received funding to transform their learning environment into a 'centre of excellence'. The LIFE (Learning is For Everyone) Centre in Cascade and Each One Teach One in Beetham Gardens completed upgrades to improve the physical learning environment and increase the level of comfort for students.

As a school which caters particularly for autistic students LIFE Centre received acoustic upgrades to its sensory room and classrooms and much needed electrical re-wiring.

Each One Teach One engaged the Defence Force Reserves to install 2 new water tanks, complete electrical upgrades, re-installation of gypsum ceiling tiles, and construct kitchen cupboards. This venture also saw a new private sector partnership with A.S. Brydens who donated a kitchen faucet and paint. The Centres of Excellence programme provides infrastructural upgrades to educational facilities that improve opportunities for people with disabilities. The renovations are done to international standard and include: remodelling ergonomic classrooms, installation of wheelchair ramps, bathroom upgrades and other physical conversions to encourage a suitable learning environment for students with special needs.



**"LIFE Centre is truly honoured to participate in the 'Centres of Excellence' Programme. Having an acoustically sound space conducive to ones sensory needs has a profound effect on learning and performance among students, especially those with autism."**

**Dr Shara Zoe, Principal  
LIFE Centre**

# Not enough girls interested in tech

# Masters of Prep: Identifying during an earthquake

LAURA DOWRICH-PHILLIPS | CREATED : 14 SEPTEMBER 2020

# MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

**Preparing for severe hazards and disasters**

The Preparing You programme was launched in 2015 and is an initiative geared towards disaster preparedness, specifically education, specifically designed for those with special needs.

This year by the Digital Foundation to give children with special needs an opportunity to "prepare" in a safe space. The special needs programme uses interactive and engaging approaches to address special needs persons in understanding and preparing for severe hazards and disasters.

Teachers have in to the course's three-day session on building capacity for disasters, as well as disaster preparedness plans for their classrooms.

The programme is designed to be interactive and engaging, with various activities and exercises that encourage learning and understanding of disaster preparedness.

**Not enough girls interested in tech**

Students at the University of the West Indies (UWI) are encouraged to explore technology and engineering fields. However, a study found that not enough girls are showing interest in these fields.

The study, conducted by the UWI, found that while there is a growing number of girls in STEM fields, the interest is still significantly lower than that of boys. This is a concern for the university, as it aims to promote gender equality in the workforce.

The researchers suggest that there may be cultural and societal factors influencing this trend. They recommend that schools and universities should provide more encouragement and support for girls in these fields.



Special needs educators

**Students won't understand physical distancing**

Special needs educators expressed concern on Wednesday over the possibility of schools in September, saying it may be difficult for students to understand physical distancing protocols.

A special needs educator, who requested anonymity, said, "Some children will not obey the rules of physical distancing. They may not understand the concept of staying apart from others. This could be a challenge for schools as they prepare to reopen."

**Digicel Foundation offers relief to Memisa Centre**

The COVID-19 pandemic is transforming the way billions of people live, work, buy, and relate to one another. In the midst of fear, confusion and anxiety, the Digicel Foundation continues to engage with and deliver meaningful assistance to those most vulnerable in our population, especially those who live in residential institutions like the Memisa Centre in Arima.

The centre is no stranger to the Digicel Foundation's support and guidance in navigating through challenging times. With the most recent restrictions presented with the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, the Digicel Foundation provided donations of pantry items and hygiene products to assist with the daily operations at the home and others to curb the spread of the virus.

Two months ago, the Memisa Centre participated in emergency preparedness through the Digicel Foundation's Preparing You programme. The Preparing You programme fosters capacity building in disaster preparedness for persons with disabilities.

Although the programme focuses on risk reduction for natural disasters, the residents and caretakers are equipped with knowledge and strategies to effectively respond to disasters and disruptions like COVID-19.

The Memisa Centre, located at Heights of Carapap Road, Arima, was established in 1972 under the umbrella of the Lady Holroyd Foundation. The centre is one of the few facilities located in East Trinidad which caters primarily for adult males with intellectual or other cognitive disabilities. The centre also acts as a vocational school for young adults with intellectual disabilities.

Digicel Foundation continues to find ways to support vulnerable populations as part of their global mandate to ensure that no one gets left behind.



Caretakers share daily roster with some of the residents at the Memisa Centre.

**100 first aid kits for special needs schools**

SIX special needs schools received 100 first aid kits and kits of the Digicel Foundation's Preparing You Programme.

The kits were donated by the TT Red Cross Society and are being distributed to principals at various special needs schools. The kits contain first aid supplies and instructions for use.

The Digicel Foundation is committed to supporting special needs schools and ensuring that they have the resources they need to provide a safe and healthy environment for their students.

**Memisa Centre gets prepared for COVID-19**

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**Ministry launches Disability Resources Website and Recommendations Main Website**

The Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Skills Development has launched a new website to provide information on disability resources and recommendations.

The website is designed to be user-friendly and accessible to all persons with disabilities. It contains information on various services and programs available to persons with disabilities, as well as recommendations for employers and service providers.

The Ministry also launched a Recommendations Main Website, which provides a platform for persons with disabilities to share their experiences and recommendations with others.

**Digicel supports special needs community**

The Digicel Foundation has partnered with its parent company, Digicel, to support the special needs community in T&T. Through its various initiatives, the Foundation has provided support and resources to special needs schools and individuals.

The Foundation's support includes providing financial assistance, providing training and capacity building opportunities, and providing access to Digicel's services and products.

The Foundation is committed to supporting the special needs community and ensuring that they have the resources they need to thrive and succeed.

**Digicel Foundation Community Footprints**

Digicel Foundation has launched its very own television show, Digicel Foundation Community Footprints. The show will premiere Tuesday, 26 on Cat 2.

The show will cover some of the work done by the Foundation in different parts of the Caribbean, including Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.

The show will feature interviews with community members and showcase the impact of the Foundation's work.

**Doing it for the next generation**

Solar-and-wind-powered community greenhouse for Cashew Gardens

The Digicel Foundation is supporting a project to build a solar-and-wind-powered community greenhouse for Cashew Gardens. The greenhouse will provide fresh produce to the community and promote sustainable agriculture.

The project is being funded by the Digicel Foundation and is being implemented by the local community. The greenhouse will be a model for other communities in the region.

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**Applications needed for EPIC programme**

The call for applications is being extended to community-based organizations, faith-based organizations and other non-governmental organizations to implement small scale projects over a six to eight week period nationwide.

The grant will focus on introducing projects like refurbishing computer labs, community outdoor youth park, pavilion, community gardens, renovation of sporting facilities such as basketball courts, tennis courts and medical clinics and more.

EPIC application forms can be found online via website and Applicants can email completed forms to [epic@digicel.com](mailto:epic@digicel.com)

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**Masters of Prep**

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## \$200,000 awarded to NGOs

Four community groups will start the new year with project funds from the Digital Foundation's "Join the Together Christmas" initiative which will ensure that their communities have a prosperous and bright 2021.

From November 30 to December 10, the foundation called on all registered not-for-profit organisations to submit an initiative that will make a difference in the lives of the people from their communities. Digital Foundation awarded those \$50,000 awards especially important, given the major challenges posed by the global pandemic to the people of Trinidad and Tobago.

In all 86 applications were received, reflecting the vast scope of the good works being done by not-for-profit organisations across Trinidad and Tobago. After a rigorous vetting by the evaluation committee...



tion will give \$50,000 to four communities together this Christmas. The foundation is offering a total of \$200,000 divided among four...

ons began on Monday and major challenges for impacted the work done organisations across the giving s inviting all apply for a letter To

Apply us **Digicel Foundation** records progressive sixth year



"I have one job, and that's to protect her. So I will..."

Whether it's from bullies...

**Ministry launches ICT Lab for Adult Education Programme**

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) has announced the launch of the ICT Lab for Adult Education Programme. The programme is designed to equip adults with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in the digital economy.

The ICT Lab will provide a safe and supportive environment for adults to learn and explore new technologies. The programme will be delivered through a series of modules, including basic computer skills, internet usage, and digital literacy.



**Digicel Foundation records progressive sixth year**

The Digital Foundation's Sixth Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held virtually on November 21, 2020. The meeting was a success, with the foundation reporting a record year in its sixth year of operations.

The AGM was attended by over 100 members and stakeholders. The foundation's financial performance was highlighted, showing a significant increase in revenue and a strong commitment to its social impact programs.

**Ministry Launches Tobago**

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) has announced the launch of the Tobago programme. The programme is designed to provide educational and training opportunities for young people in Tobago.

The programme will focus on providing quality education and training in various fields, including science, technology, and the arts. The goal is to equip young people with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in the workforce.



**celebrating Youth Excellence in Sport**

The Digital Foundation is celebrating youth excellence in sport. The foundation has awarded several young athletes for their outstanding achievements in various sports.

The award winners were recognized for their dedication, hard work, and sportsmanship. The foundation is proud to support young athletes and encourage them to continue to excel in their chosen sports.

**Lady Hochoy School prepares for evacuation**

**Guardian**

**Committed to disaster preparedness**

**Galaxy S20 | \$20+**

**Gojo Conquerors win Digicel Foundation's Tech**

**TECH**

**Created: 27 AUGUST 2020**

**Digicel Foundation**

**They are the 2020...**

**Girls Power Tech goes**

**They are the 2020...**

**A SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR VENEZUELAN CHILDREN**

**An officer from the T&T Fire Service...**

**could be anywhere**

**Equipping students for the future**

**28 rec**

**They are the 2020...**

**in edness**

**A CALL TO SERVE**

**Dear RHAND members, it's nomination time again!**

**Tobago's special-needs children receive tablets from Digicel**

**nises im**



**COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT**





The current COVID- 19 atmosphere created a culture of innovation within our Community Development portfolio. Face-to-face interaction was replaced with virtual engagement. Nationwide initiatives shrunk down to community collaboration whose projects focus on addressing critical community needs. This year featured projects such as tech labs, community-based play spaces, and outdoor gardening.

**‘Wherever Digicel grows so too must the  
communities around it’**

Denis O’ Brien – Patron  
Digicel Foundation



## GIRLS POWER TECH - INNOVATION, CREATIVITY & GIRLS

Restrictions brought on by COVID-19 made hosting Girls Power Tech in person, an impossible task. However, the tech event took a brilliant turn and the Digicel Foundation team did not disappoint. The one-day virtual event welcomed 13 teams of 10 young women between the ages of 13-21 years. The day was packed with tech booth demonstrations, influential speakers and a Hackathon. For the Hackathon, the teams were asked to develop innovative tech-based solutions to overcome educational, social and business challenges that arose as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The TT\$101,250 (US\$15,000) event was a collaboration between Digicel Business Solutions, CISCO and Digicel Foundation.

# IMPACT STORY

**1<sup>st</sup> place – Ryu Dan Dojo Conquerors** - The team proposed using Mixed Reality to solve our Education challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. The proposal included using a VR immersive platform to create classrooms with no boundaries.

As the first prize the team received a 12 week tutorial in Animation. Through their training they development a 3- minute animation on Domestic Violence entitled ‘You are not alone’

**2<sup>nd</sup> place - The Tech Girls** took 2nd place with their concept to use an App to build awareness on COVID-19 and protective measures. The App also includes a ‘symptom tracker’ and provides alerts when an individual entered a ‘COVID hot-spot’ in T&T. A database of quarantine facilities, emergency hotlines, sanitization services, COVID kits and reminders to practice social distancing and personal hygiene were also built in.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Cashew Gardens RSC Tech Club** used Animation, the 10-girl team developed the concept of the GloVibe glove. An effective solution to detect the virus, infected persons and compromised surfaces. Upon detection, the data is stored in an app that can be sent to a central database. Some of the features include: Internal Sensors, External Sensors, a GPS Tracker and Thermometer.



“We had 10 girls that participated in Girl Power Tech 2020. GPT provided the girls with a platform for team work, noting Covid 19 restrictions. The girls have developed new animation skills and produced their first animation on the theme of Domestic Violence. In the words of one girl –“Digicel Foundation is family, they really care about our development”.

Sensei Marva John Logan,  
Ryu Dan Empowerment Foundation



## EPIC - BUILDING EPIC COMMUNITIES

Four years, 103 community projects over 48,000 impacted persons impacted ... now that's EPIC! This year 23 new community partnerships joined the EPIC ranks. Projects such as community parks, computer labs, upgrades to outdoor sport facilities, and community aquaponics systems are just a few of the projects that were implemented this year. In spite of the COVID-19 restrictions and challenges, NGOs partners proved their resilience and upheld the community spirit Today we have 103 EPIC reasons how we can work together to create a world where no one gets left behind.






**PROJECT PARTNER**



**PROJECT NAME/TYPE**



**COMMUNITY**

|  |   |                   |
|--|---|-------------------|
| Serenity Place                         | Upgrades to a Domestic Violence Shelter       | Pointt Fortin     |
| The Coterie of Social Workers          | Activity centre for the elderly               | Barataria         |
| Rotary Club of Port of Spain West      | Upgrades to ward at a mental facility         | St Ann's          |
| Vedant Enterprises/ Lions Club         | Outdoor basketball court & Exercise equipment | Rio Claro         |
| Community Police Unit Central Division | Computer lab at Youth Friendly Space          | Chaguanas         |
| Second Baptist Empowerment Temple      | Computer lab for community youth              | Princes Town      |
| Greenvale Police Youth Club            | Aquaponics Farming                            | La Horquetta      |
| Chosen Hands                           | Outdoor Garden at Girls' Home                 | St Jude's Belmont |



| PROJECT PARTNER                      | PROJECT NAME/TYPE                       | COMMUNITY    |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------|
| The Oral Traditions Roots Foundation | Photography programme for at risk youth | Chaguanas    |
| Mt George Police Youth Club          | Upgrades to Youth Club                  | Tobago       |
| Bon Air Gardens Village Council      | Upgrades to Playground                  | Arouca       |
| Penal Rock Road Community Council    | Community Playground                    | Moruga       |
| Cashew Gardens                       | Greenhouse                              | Chaguanas    |
| Ministry of Social Development       | Community Computer lab                  | San Fernando |
| Autistic Society of T&T              | Equipment for students with Autism      | D'Abadie     |



| PROJECT PARTNER                      | PROJECT NAME/TYPE  | COMMUNITY    |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------------|
| La Horquetta Seventh Day Adventist   | Community Computer Lab   | La Horquetta |
| San Fernando City Corporation        | Community Playground   | San Fernando |
| Vitas House                          | Storage area for Cancer Hospice                                | St James     |
| Court Shamrock                       | Refurbishment of Shelter for Homeless men                      | San Fernando |
| NALIS & SVH Audio Publishing Company | Developing audio books for Deaf, VIP, & Print disabled         | POS          |
| Living Water Community & Together Wi | Sewing equipment for Migrant women                             | Maraval      |
| Lynelle Fyzool                       | Staff project to develop a computer lab in a rural community   | Matura       |
| Analia Hazette                       | Staff project to develop a home work centre in urban community | Champs Fluer |





**“Digicel Foundation’s EPIC grant has helped develop Rio Claro in spite of tough times...The tripartite of Community, Public sector and Private sector plays a crucial role in community resilience and nation building- now more than ever.”**

**Rushton Paray, Member of Parliament  
Mayaro**



Click Play for Better Together



## BETTER TOGETHER

Last Christmas we issued a challenge for Non Profit Organisations to create initiatives that would bring their communities together. Of the hundreds of applications received, four groups received TT\$262,000 (US \$38,814) to implement projects that prove why we're 'Better Together'.

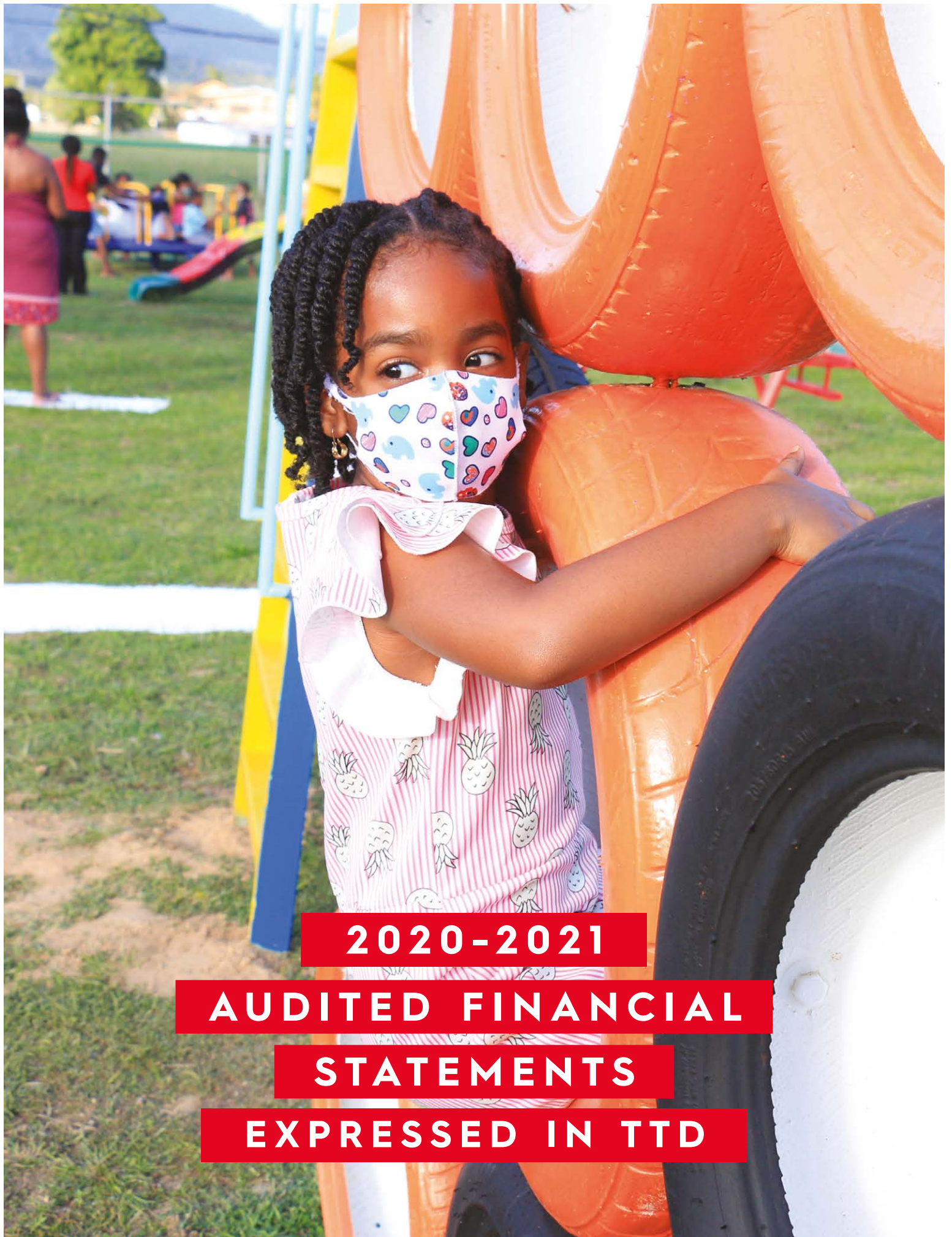
**Is There not a Cause (ITNAC)** used its funds to refurbish a transitional home for women who are victims of domestic violence and minor upgrades to the NGO's thrift shop.

**Rotary Club of Maracas St Joseph**, used its grant to upgrade the rest and picnic spot at the Maracas Waterfalls, St Joseph. The funds covered costs associated with the landscaping, refurbishing bathrooms, benches and minor road works leading to the tourist destination.

**Court Shamrock Home for Socially Displaced Men in San Fernando** happily used its winnings to refurbish the Home's night shelter for men. The funding also covered the purchase of beds, kitchen appliances, and minor upgrades to the bathroom and shower areas.

**Lopinot Tourism Development** used the partnership to conduct minor upgrades to the Community Centre, to purchase Parang instruments and supplemental equipment for its chocolate factory.





**2020-2021**

**AUDITED FINANCIAL**

**STATEMENTS**

**EXPRESSED IN TTD**

# Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation

## Statement of Management's Responsibilities

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Management is responsible for the following:

- Preparing and fairly presenting the accompanying special purpose financial statements of Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation, ('the Foundation') which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2021 and the statements of income and expenditure, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising significant accounting policies and other explanatory information;
- Ensuring that the Foundation keeps proper accounting records;
- Selecting appropriate accounting policies and applying them in a consistent manner;
- Implementing, monitoring and evaluating the system of internal control that assures security of the Foundation's assets, detection/prevention of fraud, and the achievement of the Foundation's operational efficiencies;
- Ensuring that the system of internal control operated effectively during the reporting period;
- Producing reliable financial reporting that comply with laws and regulations; and
- Using reasonable and prudent judgement in the determination of estimates.

In preparing these audited special purpose financial statements, management utilised the accounting policies set out in Note 2 to the special purpose financial statements.

Nothing has come to the attention of management to indicate that the Foundation will not remain a going concern for the next twelve months from the reporting date or up to the date the accompanying special purpose financial statements have been authorised for issue, if later.

Management affirms that it has carried out its responsibilities as outlined above.



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Chief Executive Officer  
5 October 2021



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Accountant  
5 October 2021



## Independent auditor's report

To the Board of Directors of Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation

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### **Our opinion**

In our opinion, the special purpose financial statements of Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation (the Foundation) are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 2 to the special purpose financial statements.

### **What we have audited**

The Foundation's special purpose financial statements comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2021;
- the statement of income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended;
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the special purpose financial statements, which include significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

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### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the special purpose financial statements* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Independence**

We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with the *International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards)* issued by the *International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA Code)*. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the *IESBA Code*.

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### **Other Matter**

The special purpose financial statements of the Foundation for the year ended 30 March 2020 were audited by another firm of auditors whose report, dated 28 October 2020, expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements.

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### **Emphasis of Matter - Basis of accounting and restriction on distribution and use**

We draw attention to Note 2 to the special purpose financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The special purpose financial statements are prepared to assist the board of directors in meeting the requirements of the Non-Profit Organisations Act, 2019. As a result, the special purpose financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

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**Emphasis of Matter - Basis of accounting and restriction on distribution and use (continued)**

Our report is intended solely for Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation. Our opinion is not modified in respect to this matter.

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**Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the special purpose financial statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation of these special purpose financial statements in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 2 to the special purpose financial statements, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of special purpose financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the special purpose financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Foundation's financial reporting process.

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**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the special purpose financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the special purpose financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these special purpose financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the special purpose financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

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**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the special purpose financial statements  
(continued)**

- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the special purpose financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Foundation to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

*PricewaterhouseCoopers*

Port of Spain  
Trinidad, West Indies  
5 October 2021



# Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation

## Statement of Financial Position

(Expressed in Trinidad and Tobago dollars)

|   | Note | As at<br>31 March |                |
|---|------|-------------------|----------------|
|   |      | 2021<br>\$        | 2020<br>\$     |
| <b>Assets</b>                               |      |                   |                |
| <i>Current assets</i>                       |      |                   |                |
| Cash at bank and at hand                    |      | <u>746,020</u>    | <u>461,406</u> |
| <b>Total assets</b>                         |      | <u>746,020</u>    | <u>461,406</u> |
| <b>Accumulated fund and liability</b>       |      |                   |                |
| Accumulated surplus                         |      | <u>738,934</u>    | <u>461,406</u> |
| <i>Current liabilities</i>                  |      |                   |                |
| Sundry payable                              | 3    | <u>7,086</u>      | <u>--</u>      |
| <b>Total accumulated fund and liability</b> |      | <u>746,020</u>    | <u>461,406</u> |

The notes on pages 9 to 11 are an integral part of these special purpose financial statements.

On 5 October 2021, the Directors of Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation approved these special purpose financial statements for issue.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Director



\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

# Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation

## Statement of Income and Expenditure

*(Expressed in Trinidad and Tobago Dollars)*

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|                                |       | Year ended<br>31 March |                    |
|--------------------------------|-------|------------------------|--------------------|
|                                | Notes | 2021<br>\$             | 2020<br>\$         |
| <b>Donations</b>               | 4     | <u>3,882,149</u>       | <u>5,510,252</u>   |
| <b>Expenses</b>                |       |                        |                    |
| Project expenses               |       | (3,080,955)            | (3,011,947)        |
| Other operating expenses       |       | <u>(523,666)</u>       | <u>(428,676)</u>   |
| <b>Total expenses</b>          | 5     | <u>(3,604,621)</u>     | <u>(3,440,623)</u> |
| <b>Net income for the year</b> |       | <u>277,528</u>         | <u>2,069,629</u>   |

The notes on pages 9 to 11 are an integral part of these special purpose financial statements.

# Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation

## Statement of Changes in Equity (Expressed in Trinidad and Tobago Dollars)

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|                                 | <b>Accumulated<br/>fund<br/>\$</b> |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Year ended 31 March 2021</b> |                                    |
| Balance at beginning of year    | 461,406                            |
| Net income for the year         | <u>277,528</u>                     |
| <b>Balance at 31 March 2021</b> | <u><u>738,934</u></u>              |
| <b>Year ended 31 March 2020</b> |                                    |
| Balance at beginning of year    | (1,608,223)                        |
| Net income for the year         | <u>2,069,629</u>                   |
| <b>Balance at 31 March 2020</b> | <u><u>461,406</u></u>              |

The notes on pages 9 to 11 are an integral part of these special purpose financial statements.

# Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation

## Statement of Cash Flows

*(Expressed in Trinidad and Tobago Dollars)*

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|   | Year ended<br>31 March |                       |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------|
|   | 2021<br>\$             | 2020<br>\$            |
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                   |                        |                       |
| Net income for the year                                       | 277,528                | 2,069,629             |
| <b>Changes in operating asset/liability</b>                   |                        |                       |
| Decrease in deferred revenue                                  | --                     | (540,506)             |
| Increase/(decrease) in sundry payable                         | <u>7,086</u>           | <u>(2,031,985)</u>    |
| <b>Net cash generated from/(used in) operating activities</b> | <u>284,614</u>         | <u>(502,862)</u>      |
| <b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>   | 284,614                | (502,862)             |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>         | <u>461,406</u>         | <u>2,763,598</u>      |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>               | <u><u>746,020</u></u>  | <u><u>461,406</u></u> |
| <b>Represented by:</b>  |                        |                       |
| Cash at bank and at hand                                      | <u><u>746,020</u></u>  | <u><u>461,406</u></u> |

The notes on pages 9 to 11 are an integral part of these special purpose financial statements.

# Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation

## Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements

31 March 2021

(Expressed in Trinidad and Tobago dollars)

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### 1 General information

The Foundation was incorporated in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on 4 May 2007 as a non-profit entity and its registered office is situated at 11C Maraval Road, Port of Spain.

#### *Purpose*

The business of the Foundation is registered as the following:

To provide funding to individuals and organisations involved in the following:

- a. Activities of a patriotic, philanthropic, charitable, educational, artistic, social and / or sporting nature; and
- b. Activities designed to effect positive changes in communities.

All activities along this line were started by the Foundation at the beginning of the 2014 financial year.

#### *Funding*

The primary source of funding for the Foundation is from donations made by Digicel (Trinidad & Tobago) Limited.

### 2 Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these special purpose financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented.

#### a. *Basis of preparation*

These special purpose financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis and are expressed in Trinidad and Tobago dollars.

#### b. *Foreign currency translation*

##### (i) *Functional and presentation currency*

The Foundation's "functional and presentation currency" is Trinidad and Tobago dollars, which is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Foundation operates.

##### (ii) *Foreign currency transactions*

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the date of the transactions. Foreign currency exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at year-end average exchange rates are recognised in the statement of income and expenditure.

#### c. *Cash and cash equivalents*

Cash and cash equivalents are carried in the statement of financial position at cost. For the purposes of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and at hand.

# Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation

## Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements (continued)

31 March 2021

(Expressed in Trinidad and Tobago dollars)

### 2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

d. *Taxation*

The Foundation is an approved charitable organisation and does not earn income from trade or from donations under covenant. The Foundation therefore does not earn any taxable income.

e. *Sundry payables*

Sundry payables are obligations on the basis of normal credit terms and do not bear interest. They are accounted for on an accruals basis.

f. *Income*

The Foundation's primary source of income is from corporate donations received from the Digicel Group of companies, and from restricted and unrestricted grants received from national and international non-profit organisations. The Foundation recognises these donations and or grants as income when received.

g. *Expenditure*

Project and other operating expenses are accounted for on the accruals basis.

h. *Comparative information*

Where necessary, comparative figures were adjusted to correct prior period errors. Adjustments to previously reported information were made in accordance with the provisions of International Accounting Standard 8 - Accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors.

### 3 Sundry payable

|   | 2021         | 2020      |
|---|--------------|-----------|
|   | \$           | \$        |
| Amount payable to Digicel (Trinidad & Tobago) Limited | <u>7,086</u> | <u>--</u> |

This represents payments made by Digicel (Trinidad & Tobago) Limited on behalf of the Foundation.

### 4 Donations

|                                   |                  |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Limited | 3,533,750        | 4,937,752        |
| Inter-American Development Bank   | 305,456          | 540,506          |
| Digicel Haiti Foundation          | 33,322           | --               |
| Digicel Jamaica Foundation        | 4,879            | --               |
| Digicel PNG Foundation            | 4,742            | --               |
| Unicomer Trinidad Ltd             | --               | 15,274           |
| Staff                             | <u>--</u>        | <u>16,720</u>    |
|                                   | <u>3,882,149</u> | <u>5,510,252</u> |

# Digicel Trinidad & Tobago Foundation

## Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements (continued) 31 March 2021

*(Expressed in Trinidad and Tobago dollars)*

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### 5 Expenses by nature

|                          | <b>2021</b>      | <b>2020</b>      |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                          | <b>\$</b>        | <b>\$</b>        |
| Community development    | 2,304,237        | 1,363,902        |
| Other operating expenses | 967,301          | 1,192,036        |
| Special needs            | <u>333,083</u>   | <u>884,685</u>   |
|                          | <u>3,604,621</u> | <u>3,440,623</u> |

### 6 Subsequent events

There are no subsequent events for the year ended 31 March 2021.

# Digicel Foundation

11C Ansa Centre, Maraval Road,  
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago  
[www.digicelfoundation.org](http://www.digicelfoundation.org)  
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Digicel Trinidad and  
Tobago Foundation



digicelfoundation-tt