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***The Roxborough Police Youth Club Receives
Special Recognition from the JB Fernandes Award for
NGO Excellence in Trinidad & Tobago***

Port of Spain - TUESDAY, 15 MAY 2012 – On Friday evening, May 11, 2012, over 100 non-profit organisations from Trinidad and Tobago, government dignitaries and members of the JB Fernandes family gathered at the Hyatt Regency Trinidad to celebrate the recipients of the inaugural *JB Fernandes Award for NGO Excellence in Trinidad & Tobago*.

The special recognition honoree from Tobago was the **ROXBOROUGH POLICE YOUTH CLUB**, while Port of Spain-based Vision on Mission was announced as the 2012 Award Recipient of the *JB Fernandes Award for NGO Excellence*.

The award presentation was held during the *2012 T&T NGO Professionals Conference*, which was sponsored by the JB Fernandes Memorial Trust and convened by the Institute of International Education in partnership with Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors on May 11-12 at the Hyatt. A judging panel of local and international foundations and non-profits selected five special recognition honourees and one winning recipient for the *JB Fernandes Award for NGO Excellence in Trinidad & Tobago*.

Several government dignitaries attended the *T&T NGO Professionals Conference* and Friday's award presentation, including THA Chief Secretary Orville London, who stated during his remarks that "the Tobago House of Assembly will continue to support and collaborate with NGOs in the interest of Tobago and the people of this country."

Chief Secretary London also congratulated Tobago's special recognition honoree organisation, the Roxborough Police Youth Club, which was started 21 years ago to foster the growth and empowerment of well-rounded disciplined youth. Over the years, the Club has evolved into a monumental fixture in the Tobago community with its long-standing devotion to and significant impact on local young people.

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Thousands of youth from villages across Tobago have benefited from the Roxborough Police Youth Club diverse and engaging programs. Today, the Club offers many community programs, including the Night Football Tournament (involves over 25 villages), Young Scholars Homework Centre (boasts 105 graduates) and its newest initiative – the Roxborough Culinary Arts, which has graduated over 100 students from the culinary training program.

“We are thankful for this special recognition from the JB Fernandes Award for NGO Excellence in Trinidad & Tobago.” As we express our gratitude, we are reminded that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them,” said Krystle Bascombe, President of the Roxborough Police Youth Club.

For more information about the Roxborough Police Youth Club, please contact the Club at (868) 660-5357.

About the JB Fernandes Memorial Trust

The JB Fernandes Memorial Trust, is a philanthropic organisation established by the late Trinidadian business leader, Joseph Bento Fernandes. The Trust supports initiatives to increase access to education, improve health conditions, and alleviate poverty. Its activities are focused in his home country of Trinidad and Tobago; the country of his parents' origin, Portugal; and selected Portuguese communities in North America. Since 1998, the Trust has distributed nearly 1000 grants totaling more than US\$40 million.

Among the many initiatives supported in Trinidad & Tobago are:

- A comprehensive campaign to strengthen the capacity of the local non-profit sector
- Programs to expand volunteer-led literacy programs throughout the country
- Investments in community health care organisations serving expectant mothers
- Empowerment projects designed to improve skills and prospects for employment

About the Institute of International Education (IIE)

Founded in 1919, the Institute of International Education is dedicated to increasing the capacity of people to think and work on a global and intercultural basis. To accomplish its mission, IIE provides services in four key areas:

- Building leadership skills and enhancing the capacity of individuals and organisations to address local and global challenges.
- Promoting closer educational relations between the people of the United States and those of other countries.
- Rescuing threatened scholars and advancing academic freedom.
- Strengthening and linking institutions of higher learning globally.

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About the Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA)

Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors is a nonprofit organisation that currently advises on and manages more than \$200 million in annual giving. Headquartered in New York City, with offices in Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco, it traces its antecedents to John D. Rockefeller Sr., who in 1891 began to professionally manage his philanthropy "as if it were a business." With thoughtful and effective philanthropy as its one and only mission, Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors has grown into one of the world's largest philanthropic service organisations, having overseen more than \$3 billion to date in grantmaking across the globe.

www.rockpa.org