

6 Years of Progressive Partnership

Between the Jay and Sylvia Sobhraj Foundation-ZARA Group and the Guyana Police Force

As the Guyanese economy continues to mature in the area of Information Communication and Technology, approximately 1,128 students graduated recently from the Guyana Police Force (GPF) – Zara Computer Center ICT Training Program.

Students from the counties of Essequibo, Demerara and Berbice received training in Microsoft Office Suite, Aplus Computer Repair and Maintenance and Computer Networking. Designed for various age groups and presented by the Guyana Police Forces' Information Technology trainers, the graduating

students are now equipped to seek entry level jobs and also continue to an advance level study.

To date, over \$700,000 U-S Dollars was invested by Jay and Sylvia Sobhraj Foundation to aid in the development of police forces' three state of the art Computer Training Centres and Cybersecurity Centre.

BERBICE GRADUATION

Held in the ancient county of Berbice, approximately fifty-seven (57) students from Regions Five and Six graduated from the free training. Pursuing the assistance further to encour-

age full participation, the Zara Computer Centre also provided free transportation to students from West Coast Berbice, including Villages from Plantation Ross, El Dorado, and Onderneming.

Beneficiary Vanessa Semple, 35, of Onderneming, W.C.B said, "I dropped out of school at a tender age, and I learnt nothing, so this course is helping to bring back some form of education to me... and I believe it will help me get a better Job."

Semple and her 17-year-old daughter Tiffany Henry, who conducted the course together, elaborated that the cost-free transportation to attend the training has assisted them tremendously.

DEMERARA GRADUATION

Meanwhile, the second Graduation held on Friday August 24th, at the Officers' Training Centre in Georgetown; saw over six hundred and forty-four (644) students graduating. Persons from the tender age of seven to a seventy-eight-year-old Social Studies Teacher benefited from the Free courses; and in addition, the center served as a hub for CSEC classes. Founder, Jay Sobhraj, urged the students to strive for excellence, calling on them to continue on the path of Information Technology.

Furthermore, Georgetown's centre, IT Trainer, Lance Corporal Hinds highlighted the Centre's success, "...centre recorded a record high 644 student intake for the academic year which includes members of the public from different walks of life and professions; this is the highest number of persons



72-year-old student shows his certificate as he poses with members of the Jay and Sylvia Sobhraj Foundation.

trained within an academic year throughout all GPF Zara computer centres thus far", he noted.

Additionally, the Georgetown centre plans to introduce Adobe Photoshop and Introduction to Networking in September 2018.

ESSEQUIBO GRADUATION

The final graduation held on Saturday, August 25th, saw a total of four hundred and seventy-one students (471) graduating at the Richard Fialal Police College in Suddie Village, Essequibo Coast. G Division Commander, K Parasam, urged the beneficiaries to become leaders, in their homes, school, work places and community... "as a graduating Information Technology student, you all have gained essential knowledge to become problem solvers." Zara group member and Information Technologist, Nardeo Singh, in brief remarks urged the students to grasp any educational programmes to better themselves as Guyana prepares for the booming oil and gas sector.

Singh also indicated the teams' intention to vigorously work with the mature learners, such as parents, to manage their children on appropriate internet usage.

The donor team comprises of four overseas based Guyanese, Mr. Jay and Mrs. Sylvia Sobhraj, Businessman, Sarwan Budhu and Information Technologist, Nardeo Singh, who believe they need to give back to their home land.

The JSS Foundation recently formed a partnership with the University of Guyana Pledging \$US400,000 to establish a School of Behavioral Science. Construction is in progress and the expected official opening will be in the 1st quarter of 2019. The school along with the new degrees offered by the University of Guyana will go a far way in helping to solve some of the mental health problems in the county.

Person seeking to be part of the classes can contact the Felix Austin Police College, Camp Street.



Mother and Daughter, Vanessa Semple and Tiffany Henry.



Senior Police Officers and Admin Personnels - Felix Austin Police College



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