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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Caritas Antilles Champions Human Dignity with Landmark Launch of Regional Safeguarding Awareness Campaign

CASTRIES, Saint Lucia – Caritas Antilles, the leading humanitarian and development arm of the Roman Catholic Church in the Antilles, is proud to announce the official launch of its Safeguarding Awareness Campaign. This initiative marks a bold step forward in the organization's mission to uphold justice and solidarity across 14 dioceses in the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean.

Rooted in the core values of compassion and human dignity, Caritas Antilles has long been a pillar of support for the region's most vulnerable, coordinating vital disaster relief and long-term development. Today, the organization is elevating its commitment by ensuring that Safety, Accountability, and Protection are at the forefront of every intervention.

Breaking the Silence: Protection as a Priority

While Safeguarding and the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) have always been central to Caritas' operations, public awareness of these critical measures is often limited. This campaign aims to bridge that gap, transforming how the organization interacts with the communities it serves.

“Our mission is not just about providing aid; it is about providing it safely and doing no harm in the process,” says Caritas Antilles Regional Coordinator, Marcia Haywood. “By launching this campaign, we are empowering our staff, our program participants, and our neighbors with the knowledge of their rights and the tools to hold us to the highest standards of accountability.”

The Safeguarding Awareness Campaign is built on three essential pillars:

- **Visibility:** Raising the profile of Caritas Antilles and its innovative Youth Emergency Action Committees (YEACs), which empower young leaders in disaster response.
- **Education:** Teaching stakeholders and the public about the fundamental principles of safeguarding and our unwavering commitment to protecting every individual.
- **Action:** Providing clear, accessible information on feedback and complaint mechanisms, ensuring everyone knows how to safely report misconduct.

Operating across a diverse geographical and linguistic landscape, Caritas Antilles works hand-in-hand with parishes and international partners to build resilience. This campaign reinforces that resilience is impossible without trust. By strengthening reporting channels and educating

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communities on their rights, Caritas Antilles is fostering an environment where every person feels seen, heard, and protected.

For any further inquiries or information, please contact:

Marcia Haywood
Regional Coordinator
Caritas Antilles
January 21st 2026

About Caritas Antilles

Caritas Antilles is the official humanitarian agency of the Roman Catholic Church within the Antilles Episcopal Conference. Serving fourteen dioceses approximately 30 countries across the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean, the agency focuses on disaster relief, community resilience, and long-term development. Through its work, Caritas Antilles strives to serve the "poorest of the poor" and promote a civilization of love and justice.

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