



media STATEMENT - For Immediate Release

2nd December 2009

Attention: Education and Political reporters

STARTS

HAND UP congratulates the Social Development Minister Paula Bennett on her compromise of assistance for sole parents engaging in Level 4 and above tertiary study, but remains disappointed that the targeting funding of \$500 is far from adequate to cover additional costs of study faced by sole parents.

HAND UP would also like to remind the Minister that the changes to TIA affected more than just sole parents. The Training Incentive Allowance is available to:-

- Domestic Purposes Beneficiaries
- Invalid Beneficiaries
- Widow's Beneficiaries
- Emergency Maintenance Beneficiaries

Providing an adequate level of additional funding for eligible beneficiaries would enable those beneficiaries to make positive changes to their lives and create positive futures for their children and their families ... it is about giving a HAND UP not a hand out.

ENDS