



**GIS MARKETING &  
COMMUNICATIONS**  
CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Successful Mothers Graduate Passport Programme**

On Tuesday, 5 June 2012, the Single Mother Cohort of Passport2Success graduated at the Wharf Restaurant.

The Passport2Success Programme, run by the Ministry of Education, Training and Employment expanded on the original P2S model, which concentrated on school leavers, to providing a cohort to fit the specific needs of single mothers in our community.

The young women began their journeys on Monday, 16 January 2012. The 20 week programme exposed each of them to parenting advice, employability skills and keys to workplace success. As a part of the programme the women also worked in a job for two days per week, which allowed them to gain first-hand experience in the workplace.

Seventeen of 21 woman accepted into the cohort graduated, representing an 80% graduation rate for this cohort. Statistics shared at the event indicate that the programme continues to deliver impressive results:

- 4 are registered for classes at the University College of the Cayman Islands.
- 1 is registered at the International College of the Cayman Islands.
- 6 have secured full time employment.
- 2 have been offered the opportunity to extend their internships.

Speaking at the graduation, Mrs Shannon Seymour of The Wellness Centre stated, "This cohort for single mothers is a first for the programme. It represents the second phase of the PS2 programme, and the expansion of principles to address the employment needs of other vulnerable populations, something the Minister is committed to. "

She also expressed pride in the young women who completed the programme. "I am proud of each of you, for all of your accomplishments that you have achieved over the past 20 weeks."

Chief Officer in the Ministry Mrs Mary Rodrigues also spoke at the occasion and said, “I am most delighted and send a big congratulations to all those who have continued on with their education from being enrolled in the programme.”

Mrs Rodrigues also expressed how dedicated a programme participant has to be in order to be successful: “Passport is an opportunity but it comes with requirements that each individual has to want to take on and change from within to achieve. Therefore to each of the young women here, I am extremely proud of everything you all have achieved.”

**(GIS)**

**Photo captions** *Photo by Ministry of Education Training and Employment*

Smiling faces of the Women who graduated the Programme

**For the official Cayman Islands Government web portal, [www.gov.ky](http://www.gov.ky):**

Web title: Single Mother’s Graduate

Web blurb: P2S first single mother cohort graduates after 20 week programme.