



SCOTIABANK (BARBADOS) LIMITED

February 19, 2026

\$20 Challenge Charity Event 2026 showcases youth entrepreneurship and giving back.

For over a decade, the BEF \$20 Challenge has become Barbados' premier youth entrepreneurship programme, proudly supported by Scotiabank.

The annual Charity Event segment of the \$20 Challenge was held at the Sky Mall Seminar Room, Haggatt Hall.

The Charity Event, introduced by a Scotiabank representative over a decade ago, emphasizes corporate responsibility and encourages youth entrepreneurs to “pay it forward.” Students presented donations in the form of Talent (goods/services), Time (volunteering), and Treasure (profits), showcasing their creativity and generosity.

This year, 15 schools and one independent team participated, with approximately 25 organizations benefiting from donations totaling around \$5,000 in cash and in-kind support. Charities ranged from graduating classes and animal welfare groups to children’s causes and feeding the homeless, reflecting the breadth of community needs addressed.

Celeste Foster, Programme Director of BEF, noted “The Charity Event is a powerful reminder that entrepreneurship is not only about profit, but about responsibility. Our students are learning that just as Scotiabank has invested in them, they too can invest in others.”

Ryan Carrington, Manager at Scotiabank Haggatt Hall, added “Scotiabank is proud to support the \$20 Challenge Charity Event. We believe in empowering young people to build businesses with purpose, and this event shows how their innovation can directly uplift communities across Barbados.”

The event featured youth charity presentations, sponsor remarks, and an overview of the programme’s impact, underscoring the role of corporate sponsorship in nurturing social responsibility among Barbados’ next generation of entrepreneurs.

About the \$20 Challenge:

The \$20 Challenge is more than just a competition—it’s a life-changing experience. Here’s how it works:

- Students are given a \$20 loan and eight weeks to create a business that’s innovative, profitable, or community focused.
- Along the way, they attend workshops, receive mentorship, and participate in Market Day to test their ideas in the real world.
- They are also encouraged to give back, with teams making charitable donations from their profits, or in-kind donations.
- At the end of the challenge, teams submit detailed business reports, highlighting their journey, decisions, and lessons learned.



Celeste Foster – Director, Youth Programmes, BEF welcomes guests to the \$20 Challenge Charity Event 2026.



Ryan Carrington – Manager, Haggatt Hall Branch, Scotiabank addresses the participants and beneficiaries at the \$20 Challenge Charity Event.



St. George Secondary School, King's Farm presentation to It Takes a Village & SGSS Agriculture Program
L to R – Tshay Als, Jaden Sealy, Ms. Cherie Tull-Sobers-Teacher



The Ellerslie School, Tropics Natural Juice presentation to Association for the Blind & Deaf
L to R – Taliyah Weekes, Shadonna Reid.



Deighton Griffith School, Pyour Pop presentation to World Transformation Ministries
L to R – Aaron King, Rev. Ronalston Alvin Wiggins



Deighton Griffith School, A.P. Tie Dye presentation to Barbados Cancer Society
L to R – Ajari Pollard, Prof. R. David Rosin - President