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PRESS RELEASE

Belize Opens Disability Week 2025

Belmopan, November 30, 2025.

The Ministry of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs proudly announces the official opening of Disability Week 2025, observed from November 30 to December 6, under the global theme: **“Fostering Disability Inclusive Societies for Advancing Social Progress.”**

This annual observance highlights Belize’s continued commitment to advancing the rights, inclusion, and well-being of persons with disabilities across the country.

In declaring Disability Week officially open, Hon. Thea Garcia-Ramirez, Minister of Human Development, emphasized that disability inclusion is not an act of charity, but an act of justice and a necessary pillar of national development.

“Disability inclusion is essential to who we are as a nation. The true strength of Belize is reflected in how we uplift the dignity, rights, and potential of every person. This week, we reaffirm our commitment to creating communities, services, and opportunities where persons with disabilities can thrive. As we mark the anniversary of the Belize Disability Act, we continue advancing its implementation through the completion of the Disability Secretariat, the appointment of the Commission, and the development of the Belize National Disability Strategy. Together, we can and will build a more inclusive Belize.”

During this week, the Ministry will highlight significant progress toward disability inclusion, including:

- The ongoing establishment of the Disability Secretariat
- The appointment of the National Disability Commission

- The completion of the Belize National Disability Strategy, aimed at mainstreaming disability inclusion across all ministries and local governments
- Strengthened coordination with NEMO and the Special Needs Disaster Risk Committee to enhance accessible Disaster Risk Management

Disability Week activities will feature awareness campaigns, community engagement, recognition of advocates, and initiatives designed to promote equity, accessibility, and participation for all persons with disabilities.

The Ministry encourages all Belizeans to join in supporting the events and to commit to fostering a society where inclusion is the norm.

Ends