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# Press Release

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## **PRESS RELEASE BY THE MINISTRY FOR EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT**

Students at Maria Regina College Dun Manwel Attard Young Adults Education Resource Centre are being rewarded for their remarkable show of entrepreneurship with products they made themselves making their way to the retail market.

With financial assistance from the HSBC Malta Foundation, students have been working to place Maltese herbs and other ingredients into attractive aromatherapy products with their own label of 'Wardija'.

The centre caters for the needs of young persons with different abilities who are over 16 years of age. Entrepreneurship education is an integral part of the school programme to a point where the school is continuously promoting and assisting initiatives ranging from self-employment to social enterprises and cooperatives targeting the disability sector. Students' efforts and experiences in this regard are also being certified and officially recognised through national and international accreditation bodies.

During the ceremony, Minister for Education and Employment Evarist Bartolo expressed his gratitude to HSBC as a dedicated partner in such a creative and innovative approach to improving the quality of life of people with disability by giving them opportunities which recognised their abilities in an entrepreneurial way.

He described it as an excellent initiative and a best practice model that should be followed in all secondary schools. Minister Bartolo also spoke about the removal of an anomaly so that these students would start receiving stipends, which in turn would be another incentive for parents to encourage their children to get an education and prepare them for life and employment.

The school has received several local and European awards recognising its efforts in the sector.