



Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands

Winter 2010

Message from Chairman & President

In the year 2010, as we joyously celebrate the **20th Anniversary of the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands**, we are particularly proud of CFVI's commitment to the children and families of the U.S. Virgin Islands, **"For good. Forever."** The year also marks milestones for many of the programs and services of the Community Foundation, including:

- ✦ 15 years of scholarships,
- ✦ 14 years of mini-grant awards,
- ✦ 13 years of celebrating **Fathers** in our communities,
- ✦ 11 years of providing emergency grants to **families**,
- ✦ 10 years of the **"Laws of Life"** high school essay awards, and
- ✦ 7 years of annual **teacher awards**.

2010 also marks the production of the **10th annual USVI Kids Count Data Book...** and the 6th year of **The Family Connection**, which is CFVI's early childhood education initiative to enhance the early learning experience of our littlest citizens.

Since 1990 the Foundation has given away more than **\$9 million** in grants and services. Our current assets are \$6 million. And today we are working harder than ever to grow our successful programs, increase grants and scholarships, and guarantee a bright future for all in our community.

As always, we are deeply grateful to **CFVI's Angel donors** and community partners. Without you, there would be no Community Foundation!

Ricardo J. Charaf
Chairman of the Board

Dee Baecher-Brown
President

In Memory of Henry L. Kimelman, CFVI Founding Benefactor

CFVI remembers the life of Henry L. Kimelman who passed away November 9, 2009. Ambassador Kimelman and his wife of 66 years, Charlotte, were the founding donors of the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands; the lead donors for the Charlotte Kimelman Cancer Institute at the Schneider Regional Medical Center; and major contributors to the Antilles school, where the library and a scholarship program for low-income students bear the Kimelman name.

Kimelman enjoyed a rich-and-varied career in the Virgin Islands and beyond. He was an owner and general manager of the Virgin Isle Hotel in the 1950s, and was one of the founders of the West Indies Corporation. Kimelman served as the Virgin Islands' first commissioner of commerce.

On the national scene Kimelman served as chief of staff to former Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall and was finance chairman of George McGovern's Democratic presidential campaign in 1972. And in what he viewed as the highlight of his career, he served as ambassador to Haiti in 1980-81 under the Carter administration.

Kimelman is survived by his wife Charlotte; his three children, Suzi Edwards, Donald and John Kimelman; and seven grandchildren.



Angels make it happen!

Annual Angel gifts, \$500 and up, help underwrite the work of CFVI staff and support all CFVI funds, programs, and services. Angel gifts also support CFVI's on-going yearly outreach programs. Because of our Angels, CFVI does not charge fees for the establishment, maintenance and administration of the Foundation's Funds.

Thanks to the generosity of CFVI Angels, CFVI was able to help:

- Assist in raising \$18,350 in funds for **Crime Stoppers USVI**.
- Assist in raising over \$55,000 for the **Welcome to Gulu** project which benefited the children soldiers of Gulu, Uganda and other child victims of human trafficking.
- Establish the **Haitian Relief Fund** to assist with emergency relief efforts following the earthquake in Haiti, including but not limited to the USVI Haitian Relief trips.
- Provide financial and program expertise for the Territory's **Leadership in Action Program (LAP)** to galvanize community efforts to improve the early learning environment and prepare our young children for school and a happy and healthy life.

Become an Angel today. Call CFVI at 774-6031 to donate by Visa or MasterCard or mail your check to CFVI, P.O. Box 11790, St. Thomas, VI 00801.

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If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by e-mail, please send an e-mail with your name, e-mail address and "CFVI Newsletter" in the subject line to general.info@cfvi.net.

Choosing to Get Involved

The Family Connection *update*

The Family Connection (TFC) is CFVI's program to enhance the early childhood environment in the USVI.

In August 2009, CFVI awarded \$25,000 in **Kimelman Grants for Quality in Early Childhood Education** to 15 of the Territory's licensed day care centers. The grants ranged from \$700 to \$2,500 and covered a broad spectrum of initiatives, including the purchase of developmental and educational toys and books; workshops for staff professional development; improvements to playground areas; and the purchase of child-sized furnishings and equipment. For a complete list of grant recipients, please go to www.cfvi.net/grants.

In January 2010 Standard Pacific Capital Holdings, LLLP (SPCH) in conjunction with CFVI and The Family Connection, awarded \$21,744.39 in **SPCH Early Childhood Development Grants** to 14 childcare centers on St. Thomas to assist with purchasing materials and equipment that will be used to enrich the learning experiences of the children at the centers.

On February 13, 14 and 15, CFVI was a sponsor of the **Leadership in Action Program (LAP)** tent at the **St. Croix Agriculture and Food Fair**. Hundreds of parents and children visited the tent and participated in activities such as making play dough, building with blocks, pipes and recyclable objects, and playing in a "sandbox" filled with birdseed. Child care professionals were on hand to talk to parents and provide them with materials from the Born Learning campaign. LAP is a results-based program with 30 USVI community leaders, who are working towards aligning goals and strategies to ensure that all children in the Virgin Islands are healthy and prepared to succeed in school. The Leadership in Action Program is an initiative of the Governor's Children and Families Council, funded by CFVI in partnership with the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Government of the Virgin Islands, local businesses and private donors.



Volunteers, parents and children interact at play-station in the LAP Tent during St. Croix Ag. Fair

In December 2009, CFVI released a study entitled "Taking Stock: A preliminary Examination of Early Care and Education in the USVI." Funded through KIDS COUNT, this study was conducted by Elizabeth Jaeger of St. Joseph's University and Eleanor Hirsh, Director of The Family Connection. The purpose of the research was to survey the landscape of early care and education in the USVI. Quality in 22 child care classrooms in St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John was assessed to reveal both assets and challenges for efforts to improve the quality of early learning opportunities for all USVI children. Recommendations will be used to further the work of The Family Connection. A special thanks to **The Buccaneer** hotel for their generous hosting of the researchers! An executive summary is available on www.cfvi.net. For a copy of the complete study, call CFVI at 774-6031.

Partnering with **Kids First!**, a St. John organization which focuses its efforts on early learning programs, The Family Connection conducted focus groups on St. John to determine the kinds of experiences young children need in order to be poised for success when they enter kindergarten. The focus groups were held in October 2009 and participants included administrators of Early Learning Programs, child care teachers, parents, the clergy and community stakeholders. Based on recommendations from the focus groups with individuals who serve young children, we are exploring the possibilities of establishing a TFC Center for children, parents and child care providers on St. John.

On Feb. 19th, the ribbon was cut on the first **Born Learning Trail** in the Territory at **Magens Bay**. Born Learning Trail signs provide suggestions for grown ups who want to participate in the fun of building the brain architecture of our little ones. The trail at Magens Bay is sponsored by Standard Pacific Capital Holdings. Look for future Born Learning Trails throughout the USVI. Contact CFVI at 774-6031 for details if you or your organization would like to sponsor a trail.

<p>welcome</p> <p>to the born learning trail!</p> <p>Did you know that learning is happening all the time?</p> <p>For ways to learn together, just look for the Born Learning Trail signs. By playing and exploring you help young children get ready for success in school and in life.</p> <p>Together, you can turn everyday moments into learning moments.</p> <p>Happy trails!</p> <p>For more ideas, visit www.bornlearning.org</p> <p>bornlearning.org</p>	<p>watch learn stop play</p> <p>Let your child lead the way.</p> <p>Try this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch what your child likes to do. Is it playing with other children, looking at bugs or heading for the slide? Do the things your child likes to do. Is your child staring or pointing at something? Ask, "What do you see?" <p>Trail tip: When you follow a child's lead, curiosity and confidence grow.</p> <p>For more ideas, visit www.bornlearning.org</p> <p>bornlearning.org</p>	<p>jump skip clap move</p> <p>Get your child up and active.</p> <p>Try this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pretend to move like an animal. Walk like a duck or jump like a frog. Walk backwards or skip. Can your child do the same? Ask your child to do what you do. Clap or wave your hands. Point. Smile. <p>Trail tip: Physical activity exercises a child's body and mind.</p> <p>For more ideas, visit www.bornlearning.org</p> <p>bornlearning.org</p>	<p>imagine create pretend</p> <p>Turn any time into story time.</p> <p>Try this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tell stories about yourself and your family. Begin with "When I was little..." Look around for story ideas. See a bird? Say, "Once there was a bird named..." Have your child help tell a story. Ask, "What do you think the bird likes to do?" <p>Trail tip: Storytelling can grow a child's ability to imagine and listen.</p> <p>For more ideas, visit www.bornlearning.org</p> <p>bornlearning.org</p>	<p>look listen touch think</p> <p>Learn about the world around you.</p> <p>Try this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find a flower or a tree. Touch it. Talk about it. (Is it hard or soft? Rough or smooth?) Compare things, like flowers or leaves. (Which are bigger? Smaller?) Talk about these bits of nature. (Did they fall from a tree? Grow up from the ground?) <p>Trail tip: Exploring the things around you helps children learn how to solve problems.</p> <p>For more ideas, visit www.bornlearning.org</p> <p>bornlearning.org</p>
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Choosing to Get Involved

CFVI Highlights: Programs, Funds, Grants & Scholarships

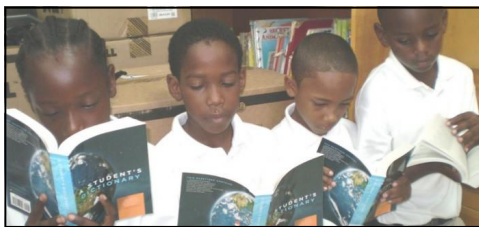
CFVI progressing with Caribbean Philanthropy Network (CPN) project . . .

The Caribbean Philanthropy Network (CPN), a project of the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI), is funded through a two-year grant from the Ford Foundation. CPN is an effort to work with committed professionals in the Caribbean philanthropic sector who share the vision of increasing the effectiveness of Caribbean philanthropy. CPN has evolved from work which began in 2004, and was originally known as the Association of Caribbean Community Foundations (ACCF).

Now in its second year, CPN is focusing on the legal and regulatory framework for philanthropy and the nonprofit sector in the Caribbean. Judith Towle and William Moody, two of CPN's Advisory Group members, have taken the leadership on this issue as a key ingredient in ensuring a healthy Caribbean nonprofit sector/civil society. CPN Advisory Board members met in Washington DC at the offices of Pew Charitable Trusts in January and are finalizing plans for the CPN Symposium which will be held in St. Thomas, May 16 through 18th. For more information visit the CPN website at www.caribbeanphilanthropy.org or call CFVI at 774-6031.

Our funds and grants at work :

In October 2009, for the 7th consecutive year, CFVI provided dictionaries to 3rd graders throughout the Territory in public, parochial and private elementary schools. The distribution is made possible by the **Dictionary Project Fund** at CFVI.



Eulalie Rivera Elementary third graders, from left, Raguann Gonsalves (left), Tenell Edwards, Ajoihny Joseph, and Joiziah Graham read their dictionaries given them by the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands. (Carol Buchanan photo)

In November 2009 CFVI awarded **Anderson Teacher Grants** directly to 22 teachers from 14 public schools in the Territory for initiatives in music, the environment and arts. Through a \$1,000 grant, the **Ulla F. Muller**



Students at Ulla F. Muller Elementary School check out giant chess board on December 21, 2009.

Elementary chess team received a giant chess board as well as chess clocks and books for a chess library to help students study and improve their chess skills. These grants are made possible by the **Anderson**

Family Fund for Education at CFVI.

The **Hodge Senior Citizen Assistance Fund** at CFVI helped fund the annual **Thanksgiving Dinner for the Elderly** held at Walker's by the Sea. The radio station WGod has hosted this dinner for the past seven years and welcomed all senior citizens and those less fortunate in our community. To date, over **\$12,000** has been awarded from the Hodge Fund to assist Senior citizens in the USVI.

Meet our Scholars . . .

In June 2009 CFVI awarded 62 academic scholarships totaling \$181,350 to high school graduates, college and graduate students from the Virgin Islands. This year the new scholarships included the **Barry Law Enforcement Scholarship**, the **Nigel O. Hodge Foundation Fund Scholarship** and two **Standard Pacific Capital Holdings Scholarships**.

In addition, **Windward Capital** and the **USVI Department of Education** sponsored the Summer Enrichment Program Scholarships for students from public or private schools. In 2009, \$15,375 was awarded to 15 high school students to attend summer enrichment programs outside the Territory.

Trask Alexander from St. Thomas received the **Barry Law Enforcement** scholarship and is attending Seton Hill University in Greensburg, PA studying forensic science.

Tramaine Creighton from St. Croix received a **2008 & 2009 Heavy Materials** scholarship and is in her second year at Tuskegee University in Alabama. Tramaine is majoring in animal science and is maintaining a 4.0 average.

Tamika Joseph, the St. Thomas recipient of a **Standard Pacific Capital Holdings** scholarship is attending UVI and majoring in elementary education. Tamika's goal is to earn her masters in education and become a teacher in the Territory.

Chauntae Kingsley from St. Thomas received the **Nigel O. Hodge Foundation Fund** scholarship and is attending Georgia State University studying nursing and human sciences.

Zaid Sewer from St. John received the **2009 William Otto & Shari Decker Music Scholarship** award and is attending the Art Institute of Atlanta in Georgia.

Kurrisa Violet from St. Croix received a **2009 Heavy Materials** scholarship and is attending the University of South Florida. In the picture (right), Kurrisa brought a little bit of St. Croix to her university and performed as a Mocko Jumbie with her school's marching band at the half time show on October 30, 2009.



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Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands

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Meet the newest CFVI board members . . .

George H. T. Dudley joined the board in June 2009 and serves as the Treasurer. Attorney Dudley is a founder-partner at the law firm, Dudley, Topper and Feuerzeig, LLP. He is also the Co-Chairman of the Board and Co-Chief Executive Officer of Lockhart Companies Incorporated. Mr. Dudley attended George Washington University in Washington, D.C. graduating with a B.A. in International Affairs. He obtained a law degree from Villanova University School of Law. He is married to Susan Laura Lugo who serves as the Territorial Coordinator for Archives for the U.S. Virgin Islands government.

William L. Graham joined the board in June 2009. Mr. Graham's past service record includes: Chairman of the Amarillo Hospital District Board of Managers and Amarillo Planning and Zoning Commission; founder, president and board member of the Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas and the Children's Health Foundation of Amarillo; president and board member of Amarillo Economic Development Corporation and the Tri-State Fair Association; a commissioner of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission; a State Trustee, National Delegate and national finance committee member of Ducks Unlimited; director of Texas Wildlife Association; director of Texas Association of Hospital Governing Boards; and director of the Texas Panhandle Heritage Foundation. Mr. Graham holds a B.S. in business administration from the University of Texas in Austin. He lives in St Thomas with his wife Ursula.

Margaret Sprauve-Martin, MD joined the board in June 2009. Dr. Sprauve is the Chief of OB/GYN at RLS Regional Hospital in St. Thomas and the Virgin Islands' Territorial Perinatologist. Dr. Sprauve graduated from Charlotte Amalie High School as valedictorian and Summa Cum Laude from the University of Detroit with a B.S. in biology. She obtained her medical degree from Harvard Medical School and a masters in Public Health from Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Sprauve has served the Territory in many capacities, including substitute teacher, emergency room physician, medical hurricane relief volunteer and director of women's health services at the V.I. Department of Health. Dr. Sprauve has also served as a board member of the United Way and Project HOPE. She is married to Michael Martin and they have 4 children.



P.O. Box 11790
St. Thomas, VI 00801-4790

About CFVI . . .

In 1990 the **Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI)** began with a \$540,000+ gift from Henry & Charlotte Kimelman to create a permanent foundation to benefit the people and non-profit organizations of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Since then, hundreds of local residents have added their gifts, and CFVI has given away more than **\$9 million**, over **16 times** the value of our founding donation, in grants, awards, and scholarships. Today, CFVI's assets are at \$6 million.

Anyone can help . . . Do you have an area of interest or concern? Your gift to CFVI can help meet the community's immediate needs and because CFVI has many permanently invested funds, your gift or fund can grow to meet tomorrow's challenges. You can make a difference by establishing a new fund, making a gift to an existing fund, naming CFVI as a beneficiary of your estate plans through the Mahogany Legacy program or becoming an annual CFVI Angel supporter.

For Good. Forever!