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U.S. Virgin Islands – The Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI) is proud to announce that in partnership with the Governor's Children and Families Council, CFVI has received honorable mention in the national 2011 State Enrollment Contest for Text4baby. Nationally, four awards were made: First place winner Delaware; Second place winner New Hampshire; Third place winner North Carolina, and an honorary mention for the U.S. Virgin Islands

Text4baby was launched in the United States Virgin Islands in February, 2011 at a joint press conference with First Lady Cecile deJongh, chair of the Children & Families Council; Dee Baecher-Brown, president of CFVI ; and Ellie Hirsh, CFVI's director of The Family Connection. The decision to join the national effort was part of a comprehensive Territory-wide effort to coordinate activities so that young children enter school safe, healthy and ready to succeed. Promoting Text4baby is one of a number of strategies being promoted in the USVI to connect pregnant women and moms to critical health information.

In a press release issued Nov. 2nd by Sarah Ingersoll, Campaign Director of the National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition, the following summary of the efforts in the USVI was provided:

Partner Spotlights Special: 2011 State Enrollment Contest Winners

In recognition of their tremendous efforts in promoting text4baby, Virgin Islands receives honorable mention in the State Enrollment Contest! The Governor's Children and Families Council and Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI) have been instrumental in a national effort with the Early Childhood Advisory Committee of the Council focusing on ongoing efforts to help create a safe and healthy environment for children. CFVI has widely distributed many Text4baby materials in English and Spanish throughout the territory to doctors' offices; health clinics; Head Start and child care centers; WIC, SNAP, and TANF offices; and other not-for-profit agencies and organizations working with children and families. CFVI and its partners have also set up displays at community events at which families with young children and young children are likely to attend. The events have been well received by the community. On behalf of the Virgin Islands, CFVI plans to increase its outreach efforts, and strive to reach a majority of moms and new moms in the Virgin Islands.

For more information about Text4baby visit their website at www.text4baby.org. For more information about the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI) and our early childhood initiative, *The Family Connection*, visit www.cfvi.net.