

Anderson Teacher Grants



The Primary Explorers Research Club was one of the programs funded through the Anderson Family Teacher Grants, a donor-advised fund at CFVI.

The Club, developed by Lockhart Elementary teacher, Joanne Saunders, provided creative, fun and exciting activities for the students three times a day.

“The best impact has been that, with these additional items, my club's membership has greatly increased and on the days that I'm available to run the recess club, incidents of playground injuries and petty fights greatly decreased,” said Saunders.

Bullying and School Violence prevention tactics were introduced to the students during the program, which resulted in the 2014-2015 Chapter of The Year award for the Lockhart Elementary School from SAVE (Students Against Violence Everywhere).

AT&T STEM Education Grants

The application for the 2015 AT&T STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Education grants is now available. Any VI public school professional is eligible to apply.

STEM Education grants will range from **\$250 to \$5,000**, for projects that seek to improve student achievement in STEM fields through an innovative project in the classroom and/or school. For those who are interested in applying, visit cfvi.fluidreview.com or if you would like to be added to our email list, contact us at general.info@cfvi.net.



DEADLINE: Nov. 23, 2015

Calling all Angels!

CFVI is looking for those individuals who are committed to a brighter future for the VI. Make your 2016 Angels donation today! Angels are people in our community who support the work we do at CFVI. Angels make an annual gift of \$500 or more. All contributions are tax deductible. To make a donation online, visit us at www.cfvi.net/donate. You can also mail your donation to:

Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands
PO Box 11790
St. Thomas, VI 00803



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CFVI 2014 Total Grants and Services= \$3,116,423



Education
\$426, 557



Health
\$228, 342



Children and Families
\$426,710



Community
\$1,743,160



Early Childhood
\$291,654

CFVI is celebrating our 25th Anniversary! Keep a look out for celebratory events later this year!



KIDS COUNT VI Data Book



On July 30th, the fifteenth annual USVI KIDS COUNT Data Book was released at a presentation to Governor Kenneth Mapp and members of his leadership team at Government House, St. Thomas. *Our Commitment Matters*, the theme of this year's data book, provides comprehensive,

territory-wide data on the well-being of children, youth and families in the Virgin Islands.

CFVI publishes a KIDS COUNT data book each year through the generous support of the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF). The data provides policymakers and program developers with the information they need to spark change. AECF hopes that the information documented every year will help to strengthen families and build stronger communities.

Data published this year showed the territory experienced an extreme decline in children population.

Twenty-five hundred fewer children now live in the Territory than in 2008. Although the child population declined, the risks and needs increased due to a worsening economy. Listed below are more findings (from data most recently available):

In 2012

Children's families in poverty: 27%
..(up from 25% in 2008)

All VI children in poverty: 31%
..(up from 28% in 2008)

Children engaged in the child support system: 34%
Children receiving SNAP food assistance: 67%
..(up from 37% in 2008)

AECF and CFVI promote a two-generation strategy that directly addresses the needs of children while simultaneously providing tools and resources to their parents. With the help of policymakers and program implementers, the current conditions in our territory can improve and provide a better future for all of our children. For more information, access the 2014 KIDS COUNT Data Book at www.cfvi.net.

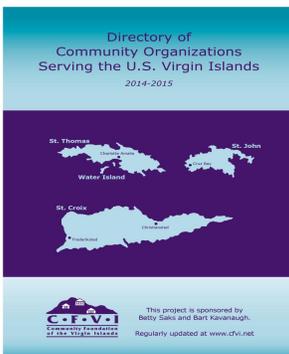
The Family Connection: Kindercamp



For the second consecutive year, Thelca Bedminster (Asst. Principal at E. Benjamin Oliver Elementary School) in conjunction with the Midler family and several CFVI donors hosted "The Family Connection Kindercamp" — a 6 week step-up to kindergarten camp run over summer to serve upcoming or repeating kindergarteners. Fully licensed and taught by accredited teachers, the kindercamp utilizes research driven, developmentally appropriate, child-led curriculum.

"This program is different because it meets children at their point of need," said Bedminster, referencing the camp's child-led curriculum that allows for each student to be engaged at his or her own skill level.

Child-led learning is exactly what it sounds like. The children get to decide what activity or lesson to learn for the day. "I have noticed significant improvement in the knowledge, willingness to share, and activity management of the students," Bedminster said. ** Excerpted with permission from St. Thomas Source article

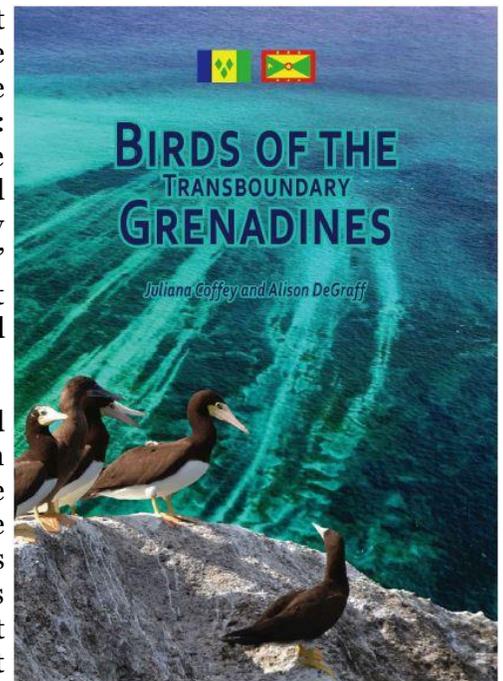


CFVI is preparing to publish the 2016-2017 Directory of Community Organizations, sponsored by Betty Saks and Bart Kavanaugh. The purpose of the directory is to strengthen the non-profit sector and help to improve the quality of life in the Virgin Islands. If your organization needs to update its current information or if you are interested in having your organization listed in the directory, send an email to general.info@cfvi.net or access the intake form at <http://www.cfvi.net/about/publications.php>.

Judith Towle Grant

The Judith A. Towle Environmental Studies Fund supports activities that address environmental concerns that transcend the boundaries of any single island or island state. Priority is given to supporting activities in areas of the Caribbean which has been the focus of Towle's own work for the last 40 years: namely, the USVI, BVI, and Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis. "This preference however was not meant to negate grant making in other Caribbean islands, and as the Towle Fund has become better known in the region, we have gradually received an increasing number of applications from outside our target areas," remarks Judith Towle. "I very much welcome this opening of the Fund's intent and particularly appreciate the trans-boundary approach to research and education that is the focus of this year's grantee from the Grenadine Islands."

The 2015 Awardees of an annual grant from the fund are Juliana Coffey and Alison DeGraff of Sealand Environmental, Inc. and Tombolo Maps & Design who will publish and disseminate a field guide with a grant of \$6,767. The project is a collaborative, volunteer-driven effort, to create an avian field guide representative of the ecological and cultural dimensions of avian resources within the archipelago. In a recent report, St. Vincent and the Grenadines was highlighted as the most important country in the Lesser Antilles for seabirds. It was also identified as the most vulnerable. The goal of the guide is to collect and synthesize scientific, local ecological knowledge and local lore to create a single document with the potential to train local bird monitors, educate the general public, promote sustainable tourism initiatives, and to enhance the overall integrity of Grenadines' resources.



2015 Summer Enrichment Scholarships

CFVI awarded more than \$25,000 to 20 students through Summer Enrichment Scholarships. The purpose of CFVI Summer Enrichment scholarships is to offer opportunities for children who would not be able to participate without this financial support; especially those students facing difficult life circumstances. "Every year CFVI receives an influx of letters and calls from students needing assistance to attend a quality summer program and it's not easy to say no to that type of request. But we haven't always had the funding or the donors to make that available," said CFVI President, Dee Baecher-Brown. "This year, the CFVI Board decided we needed to find a way to tell these young people, YES."

CFVI's 2015 goal was to ensure that children living in challenging situations were specifically supported. We had some very cool stories from a group of scholarship recipients comprised of children living in foster care. One young man, an eighth grader, expressed an interest in ultimately pursuing a career in graphic design, but didn't know how to get started. As an upcoming high-schooler, he had little interest in the summer camps the younger students were attending nor were there any that included a graphic design or technology component. Instead, CFVI set him up with a graphic designer who gave him one-on-one lessons twice a week. She observed that during their six weeks of working together his communication improved and he exhibited a quick learning of graphic design software. She plans to keep working with him in the future. Enabling this type of healthy interaction for children who may be at risk has long term benefits for the rest of their lives.

Thank YOU to our Angels for making these opportunities possible. Check out some of his art work!



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About CFVI

In 1990 the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI) began with a \$540,000 gift from Henry and Charlotte Kimelman. Since then, hundreds of local residents have added their gifts, and CFVI has given away more than \$21 million. Today, CFVI's assets are at \$10 million.

Anyone can help. 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!

We Remember Charlotte Kimelman



The Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands mourns the passing of Founder Charlotte Kimelman. Charlotte and Henry Kimelman founded CFVI in 1990 and funded many community organizations in St. Thomas, including the Charlotte Kimelman Cancer Center and the Henry Kimelman Library at Antilles School. Charlotte met Henry Kimelman on a blind date in 1941, and it was love at first sight, he remarks in his autobiography. The couple married in 1943, then moved to St. Thomas in 1950 when Henry, his brother-in-law Elliot Fishman and father-in-law Sidney Kessler opened the Virgin Isle Hotel. Charlotte and Ambassador Henry Kimelman are parents to Susan, Donald, and John.

“To say that Charlotte and Henry were generous benefactors to the Virgin Islands is an understatement,” remarks close friend and CFVI Director Emeritus Penny Feuerzeig. “They upped the bar on philanthropy here, and were warm and wonderful people.” Charlotte was known for her quiet spirit, magnificent parties, analytical approach to problem solving and a vested interest in health and humanity. CFVI President Dee Brown remembers her “boundless and understated generosity.” **“If we all emulated Charlotte’s love for the VI, our islands would become an even more wonderful place.”**

DCVI is Moving to St. Croix!



Dancing Classrooms VI is expanding—to St. Croix! Executive Director, Katie Zaytoun, established Dancing Classrooms Virgin Islands, Inc. in 2011 and since then has taught thousands of students a variety of dances including the foxtrot, waltz, and meringue. DCVI is an arts education, social/emotional learning program. Dance is used to break down social barriers, help students learn about life virtues and how to communicate and respect one another despite differences.

The program currently serves 5th and 8th graders in the St. Thomas-St. John district and starting in Fall 2015 will serve 5th graders at the Claude O. Marke and Ricardo Richards Elementary Schools on St. Croix. DCVI expects to have a maximum of 30 students per class and to reach a total of 180 students on St. Croix in this inaugural year. “Expanding the program to St. Croix has been a goal on mine for the past four years. I’ve seen the benefits and impacts it’s made with the students on St. Thomas and St. John and I am excited to share those same experiences with the children on St. Croix,” said Zaytoun.



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