

Media Release

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May 30, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS ANNOUNCES 2006 MINI-GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI) awarded \$30,001 to 36 projects in the 2006 CFVI Mini-Grants program. These grants, ranging from \$1,000 to \$250, are provided for innovative programs, which seek to improve the lives of children and families in St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John, announced CFVI's President, Dee Baecher-Brown.

Now in its 9th year, the mini-grant program at CFVI has provided **more than a quarter million dollars in grants to 459** programs designed by community organizations and individuals. "CFVI believes that the mini-grants program is an example of how long-term commitment and small grants can have a big impact in our community," said CFVI's President, Dee Baecher-Brown.

CFVI Mini-Grants support the Foundation's mission to enhance the educational, physical, social, cultural, and environmental well-being of children, youth and families in the Virgin Islands. Mini-grants support a wide range of service organizations and individuals working to provide positive alternatives for children and families and help meet social challenges, including child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, drug abuse and illiteracy.

2006 recipients of mini-grants include: from St. Croix, the Women's Coalition of St. Croix, to support an experiential-based program that seeks to strengthen children's skills in communication, team building, problem solving and cooperative learning; from St. Thomas, the VI Resource Center for the Disabled, Inc. to support programs that help disabled adults to develop various skills (computer, math, writing) for practical job applications; and from St. John the Maho Bay Clay Works to support a summer camp where youth will learn about the potter's wheel, watercolor painting, mixed media, clay, sculpture and collage.

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Generous donations from CFVI Angel donors and The Prosser ICC Foundation provide funding for this annual program. As a result of the efforts of many caring community members, the youth and families of the Virgin Islands benefit immeasurably.

The Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands was established in 1990. The Foundation has more than 80 named funds created by individuals and businesses to support educational, environmental, social and cultural initiatives in the Virgin Islands. CFVI also distributes scholarships to area students and publishes KIDS COUNT, a major study of children in the territory.

Please find a complete list of the recipients attached. For more information please call CFVI at 774-6031.

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