



Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands

WINTER 2014

Angels

keep dreams alive!

Angels are those essential people in the life of CFVI who make an annual gift of \$500 or more. Our Angels come from different walks of life but share one important thing — a commitment to bettering OUR community. Each spring, all CFVI Angels are celebrated and honored.

2014 Angels Gala Reception

March 22, 2014

Grand Hotel

(By invitation only)



Choose your wings!
Become a 2014 Angel!

\$15,000 Excelsior Diamond Angel
\$10,000 Jubilee Diamond Angel
\$7,500 Diamond Angel
\$5,000 Platinum Angel
\$2,500 Gold Angel
\$1,000 Silver Angel
\$500 Angel

*All contributions are tax deductible.
To make a donation online, please visit us at
www.cfvi.net/donate/donate.php.*

*"Be an angel to someone else whenever you can, as a way of showing thanks for the help your angel has given you. "
~Adapted from The Angels' Little Instruction Book by Eileen Elias Freeman, 1994*

We've Been Active

Over the last two years, CFVI has contributed in excess of \$3 million to help address needs throughout the territory, benefitting thousands of Virgin Islanders:

- **\$983,700** toward Education including undergraduate and graduate scholarships, summer enhancement scholarships, teacher grants, distributing dictionaries and atlases to students, Laws of Life essay contest, Next Generation Scholars program, Governor's Summer Reading Challenge and donations and grants to several schools throughout the Territory.
- **\$739,200** in Early Childhood Initiatives including the Born Learning program, The Family Connection, the Virtues Project and improvement of the early learning professional development system in the territory.
- **\$755,300** to Community-based projects such as Caribbean Genealogy Library, Dancing Classrooms VI, VI Junior Golf, VI/PR Friendship Day, VI Horse Welfare Foundation and our Junior Angels program.
- **\$319,500** to support children and families in need from our Rapid Response Funds, Hodge Senior Citizen Assistance and Nigel O. Hodge Foundation Funds and to improve the awareness of the status our children via the annual KIDS COUNT project.
- **\$244,600** in health-related grants given from our VI Cancer Patient and St. John Cancer Funds, American Cancer Society Grant and other emergency grant funds.

Towle Family Philanthropy

In June 2013, Judith Towle made a **\$25,000** donation from the Edward L. Towle Fund to the BVI Health Services Authority for a new dialysis machine at Peebles Hospital. With her donation, Mrs. Towle not only expressed her appreciation for the quality of care her late husband received in the Peebles Dialysis unit, but also highlighted the need for public and private partnerships and the importance of donations for improving the healthcare sector.

The Judith A. Towle Fund awarded a **\$5,350** grant to Stuart LaPlace of St. Kitts to complete environmental training workshops. The purpose of this workshop was to transfer skills, develop a published tool kit, stimulate awareness and encourage a different kind of farming that promotes environmental protection rather than destruction.



CFVI President Dee Baecher-Brown, Minister for Health and Social Development Hon. Ronnie Skelton, Judith Towle, BVI Health Services Authority CEO Darlene Carty- Baptiste

St. Croix Women's Initiative

For the **eighth consecutive year** our SCWI women are helping the children in the St. Croix public schools, providing "TIME for Kids" (a weekly classroom news magazine that motivates kids to read!) for all elementary and intermediary school students for the 2013/14 school year. Let's send them a collective hug for their commitment to our children!

Cancer patients are in every circle

And their supporters are too

CFVI has received sizable grants from the **American Cancer Society** to assist cancer patients in the Territory. Since October 2012 CFVI has received **\$50,000** and will receive another **\$50,000 for 2014**. With those funds we have assisted 36 patients with medical bills, lodging during treatment, and hospice care.

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The International Capital & Management Company started the **VI Cancer Patient Fund** at CFVI in 2005. Since its inception, we have assisted with grants totaling **\$655,000**. In 2013 the fund assisted **96 patients** with over **\$130,000** in grants which covered medical bills, travel, lodging, hospice and everyday living expenses. The next **fundraiser** is set for **Saturday, March 1**. All proceeds (100%) go to the Cancer Patient Fund.

"Thanks again for the wonderful work you do in the world. . .I really can't fully express how helpful you folks are and how lovely it feels to know y'all are there for us who need you."

*Grant Recipient
St. John Cancer Fund*

The **St. John Cancer Fund** was established in 2012 to assist St. John residents undergoing cancer treatment. To date they have raised over **\$80,000** and assisted more than 20 patients.

And their fundraisers come in all sizes. In November, Ms. Laura Dunlap's fifth grade class at St. John Giffit Hill School held a bake sale to directly benefit the St. John Cancer Fund. The class raised **\$871**.

In addition, the "Save 2nd Base" fundraiser, hosted by Woody's Seafood Saloon on St. John, has already raised **\$37,000** over two years.

The St. John Cancer Fund is having the **Oppenheimer Recovery Beach Party** on **Sunday, February 23**, from 11 am to 4 pm.





service with a smile!

Junior angels

The Junior Angels have been all over the map in recent months...and enjoying every minute of it! In December, nine Junior Angels spent their Saturday morning at the **Bethlehem House** to help feed the needy. Junior Angels coordinator Jennice Chewlin remarked that the kids "absolutely enjoyed themselves and felt great afterwards." They also provided assistance at the **Governor's Holiday Party** and got a chance to tour Hassel Island in conjunction with the **St. Thomas Historical Trust**.

For the Thanksgiving season, our Junior Angels made their own canned food donations to the **Family Resource Center** and also took time to collect additional donations at Cost-U-Less.

A main thrust of the Junior Angels program is developing the philanthropists and thoughtful community members of the next generation. Along those lines our students have started a "savings envelope," complete with a picture of their savings goal. What a treat it will be to see these goals come to life over the next few months!



CFVI SELECTED AS 2013 PACESETTER FOR EFFORT TO PROMOTE EARLY READING IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

The Virgin Islands' campaign to improve reading proficiency among its youngest students has been recognized as a 2013 Community Pacesetter by the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, an honor that reflects the energy, mobilization and creativity that the local community has brought to this important work.

George H. T. Dudley, Chairman of the Board of CFVI explains, "**Rather than standing on the shoulders of giants, the future of our community rests on the shoulders of our smallest members.** The efforts of the Community Foundation and our partners are crucial to the development of grade-level reading skills as well as a lifelong love of learning. Our ability to translate our resources into meaningful gains in early childhood education is vital to a positive future for the Territory's economy, as well as to the intellectual and cultural well-being of the community."

The Community Foundation works in conjunction with community partners to boost outcomes across three strategic areas: school readiness, combating summer learning loss, and promotion of school attendance. Much of this important work is accomplished through the Foundation's early childhood program, The Family Connection (TFC). Established by CFVI in 2006, TFC is designed to promote high quality child care and strengthen early childhood education. The efforts of CFVI through TFC has earned a spot as one of the **140 communities** working with the GLR Campaign, a nationwide movement of local leaders, states, nonprofits, and foundations putting a stake in the ground on third-grade reading. The communities are adopting a collective impact strategy, engaging the full community around the goal of supporting low-income children from birth through third grade.

Acknowledging that schools alone cannot address all the challenges that keep children from learning to read, CFVI serves the Virgin Islands community by providing additional resources to ensure that children arrive at kindergarten ready to succeed, attend school regularly and keep learning through the summer months.

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Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands

Physical Address 5600 Royal Dane Mall, Ste. 19
St. Thomas, VI 00802

Mailing Address P.O. Box 11790
St. Thomas, VI 00801

Office: (340) 774-6031 www.cfvi.net
Fax: (340) 774-3852 email: general.info@cfvi.net

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 \$15.9 million. Today, CFVI's assets are at \$8.6 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!

WHAT'S HAPPENING



2014-2015 Directory of Community Organizations

**Access the directory on your
smart device NOW!**

Printed version will be distributed in early March.



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Jazz in the Park (a Fund at CFVI)

5:30 – 10 p.m. @ Roosevelt Park | Artists to be announced.
Friday, Feb. 21 — Friday, Apr. 4 — Friday, July 25 — Friday, Nov. 7

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CFVI's Junior Philanthropists Fund Tennis Tournament

To date, the Junior Philanthropists have raised almost **\$30,000** for youth-based programs. Their next fundraising tennis tournament is **February 21-23** at the **St. Thomas Yacht Club and Anchorage Condominium** tennis courts. Help them make this year another success!

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St. Croix's 43rd Annual Agriculture & Food Fair

AgriFest 2014, themed "Soon Come", will be held at the **Fairgrounds in Estate Lower Love, St. Croix** from **Feb. 15-17**. If you are able to make it, be sure to stop by CFVI's **Play and Learn Tents**, run by Early Childhood Specialist Ellie Hirsh.

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USVI Alliance 2014 Economic Development Summit

The USVI Alliance is a community-minded collaboration of Virgin Islanders and friends of the Virgin Islands that is committed to identifying innovative ways to support and uplift U.S. Virgin Islands community. Their Annual **Economic Development Summit** will be held **May 20-22, 2014**, in Atlanta, Georgia, around the theme, *Diversifying Business and Industry Beyond the 21st Century*. For more information visit their website at www.usvialliance.org.

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CFVI to Release Report on Children in the Virgin Islands

In March 2014 CFVI, in conjunction with the Population Reference Bureau, will release the report "Children in the U.S. Virgin Islands: Data from the 2010 Census." This special report is a product of the VI KIDS COUNT program and compares VI data from 1990, 2000 and 2010, providing a comprehensive look at how statistics in the Territory have shifted over the last thirty years.

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We've Gone Social!

For those of you who want to stay up to date with our on-going activities, here are our newest social media outlets. **Follow Us!**

 CFVirginIslands

 @CommunityFounVI

 cfvi.wordpress.com