



Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands Spring 2019 Newsletter

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Visit our Website

2019-2020 Scholarship Cycle Now Open!

Applications for our annual academic scholarships for graduate and undergraduate students are available now! Funding is provided through generous donors of CFVI. **The deadline for submission of an application is April 15, 2019** and must be submitted here:

[CFVI Scholarship/Grant Portal](#)



In 2018, CFVI awarded more than \$377,000 in scholarships and scholar-grants to students in the St. Croix and St. Thomas-St. John districts. These scholarships and scholar-grants included funds to students who were directly impacted by the 2017 hurricanes.

Read More: <https://cfvi.co/2019ScholarApp>.

If you are interested in starting your own scholarship fund or contributing to an existing fund, please contact Development Partner Katrin Braddell:

katrinb@cfvi.net

Project Highlight
CFVI partners with USVI Department of Tourism and My Brother's Workshop to bring Little Free Library program to the Virgin Islands, thanks to funding from Princess Cruises!



The first Little Free Library was unveiled March 12th at the WICO dock in Havensight! This initiative aligns with CFVI's ongoing commitment to enhancing the lives of children and families, and our recognition of the importance of supporting access to high-quality reading material to encourage an early love of reading and lifelong literacy. More installations are in the works across the Territory!

Read All About the First [Little Free Library Here!](#)

Viya Becomes Part of the Angels Network with Excelsior Level Donation to CFVI

CFVI has received a \$20,000 CFVI 2019 ANGELS donation from Viya to further the Foundation's work in the Territory. In presenting the donation to CFVI, Viya is continuing their commitment to support philanthropic initiatives that benefit our Territory. The importance of CFVI



Angels was never more apparent than in 2017 when the Virgin Islands were devastated by hurricanes Irma and Maria, and CFVI was in a position to help – immediately!

Because of the trust invested in us by our ANGELS, CFVI has been able to provide leadership and guidance during this critical period of recovery and building forward, providing hundreds of grants and scholarships on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John. Our giving reached into every corner of the Virgin Islands and affected thousands of lives.

This donation from Viya places the company at the Excelsior level of CFVI 2019 Angels (those giving \$20,000 – \$24,999). President of CFVI Dee Baecher-Brown, explained, "We are honored to have Viya join this illustrious network of philanthropists in the Virgin Islands. And it is particularly fitting to welcome Viya to the CFVI Angels network as they work towards Building Forward with partners in the Territory!"

[Read the Entire Press Release Here!](#)



Grant Highlight VICM Imagination Library

CFVI continues to support Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in the U.S. Virgin Islands, through the Virgin Islands Children Museum. The program provides a total of 60 books, delivered monthly to a child from birth through his/her 5th birthday. Thanks to CFVI's support, residents of the VI have access to this FREE opportunity!

Interested caregivers can visit vichildrensmuseum.org and **complete the registration form**. In eight to ten weeks following receipt of registration, the first book will arrive and you can begin reading with your child.

*"You can never get enough books into the hands of enough children"
- Dolly Parton*

CFVI Joins with LSS to Host Play & Learn Tent for Ag Fair 2019

The Community Foundation and Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands partnered to host the Play and Learn Tent at the 48th Annual Agriculture and Food Fair in St. Croix this past February.

For the 9th year, the Play & Learn Tent welcomed children and parents to play together and engage in developmentally appropriate activities. Hands-on activities such as slime-making and flower painting were used to promote learning through fun, under the guidance of early childhood professionals from LSSVI's Early Head Start Program.



In addition to activities at the tent, we provided "Talk at the Fair" handouts, for a family engagement activity while attending the fair. CFVI's annual Fatherhood Collaborative t-shirts and various children's items including IGGI coloring books, crayons, pencil cases, stickers were made available to children at the Tent.

See some of our highlights from [AG Fair 2019 here!](#)



Program Highlight CFVI Junior Angels

The St. Thomas Junior Angels most recent projects include working with CFVI grantee *All Hands and Hearts - Smart Response* (AHAH) on the restoration of

the Alvin McBean Recreation Park, thanks to the support of the Puma Energy Foundation. In addition to their individual site placements, Junior Angels also volunteer as a group at various sites and community events, including a Red Ribbon Week Celebration held by the Boys & Girls Club of St. Thomas.

One of our St. Croix Junior Angels was recently singled out during testimony presented before the 33rd Legislature (Committee on Health, Hospitals, and Human Services)! Ms. Clema S. Lewis (Executive Director of Women's Coalition of St. Croix) highlighted **Keshawn A. Merchant** (a 12th grader at Central High School) for his outstanding community service. Ms. Lewis recognized the funding partnership with CFVI as critical and an example of unique programming to ensure young people value their community.

[See Video Here!](#) (scroll to the 27:24 second mark to see her testimony)

CFVI Junior Angels are high school students who volunteer to serve 10 or more hours each week in some aspect of community service. Click [here](#) to learn more.

For more information about joining the Junior Angel program, hosting a student volunteer, or donating to the program, contact Grants & Programs Manager Khadija de Lagarde at kdelagarde@cfvi.net.



Grantee Highlight Love City Strong - St. John Mold Remediation Project

Beginning shortly after Hurricanes Irma and Maria, Love City Strong assembled and coordinated a group for mold remediation services with funding provided from the Fund for the Virgin Islands (FFVI) at CFVI.



LCS provided mold sanitation to a variety of vulnerable residents on St. John through a partnership with a professional organization known as the National Organization of Remediators and Mold Instructors (NORMI). They also trained and licensed 10 different St. John residents in mold sanitation and remediation techniques to perform the work throughout the course of the program. A secondary goal of this program is to ensure the availability of deployable assets in the event of a future natural disaster, so that mold sanitation and remediation can begin as soon as possible after the event.

Members of the Annie E. Casey Foundation Visit Territory

In February, CFVI hosted several days of community partner meetings as well as an intimate gathering with a variety

of stakeholders and community members to celebrate 20 years of KIDS COUNT leadership in the USVI as a member of the Annie E. Casey KIDS COUNT Network. The week also welcomed program officers from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Karina Jimenez Lewis and Selena Tan who had the opportunity to meet with community partners and gain a deeper understanding of the challenges and needs facing children and families in the Territory.



Read more about the Annie E. Casey Foundation and KIDS Count visit [here!](#)

New Fund Highlight Island Spirit Fund

Following the 2017 hurricane season, St. Croix-based Cruzan® Rum wanted to establish a direct aid fund that would ensure that in the future no one would have to “weather a storm alone”. Through a partnership with GlobalGiving, Cruzan® established the Island Spirit Fund in an effort to create a direct response to the ongoing needs of communities affected by the storms. Through donations of \$1 dollar for every case of rum sold (and several distribution partners who have joined the case-matching commitment), the Island Spirit Fund is supporting 5 initiatives/organizations in the USVI, including CFVI. Island Spirit has set a goal that by 2022, they will raise \$10 million.

Read more here: <https://www.cruzanrum.com/island-spirit-fund>

Current Funding Opportunities

Environmental Recovery Projects:

Applications being accepted for Recycling/Waste Reduction and Native Tree Restoration projects. Rolling Deadline: (submissions will be reviewed upon receipt)

[Complete information and instructions](#)

Project Safe Neighborhoods Sub Awards:

This is a competitive application process with the goal of combining law enforcement and community-driven approaches to develop and implement coordinated efforts towards non violence in our community. Applications will be accepted for projects in two categories: (1) outreach and prevention (2) law enforcement enhancement. Deadline: April 15th

[Complete information and instructions](#)



Other Interesting News from CFVI:

Call for Reports/Data: Leveraging Facts and Figures to Build Forward

Post-hurricanes Community Needs Assessment Report Released

New Scholarship Fund at CFVI

CFVI Participates in UVI's Afternoon on the Green

CFVI/ KIDS COUNT Participates in Departments of Education and Human Services Transition Conference

Thank you to the The Virgin Islands Children's Museum for honoring us with your Foundational Sponsor Award of support!



CFVI Angels

ANGELS 2019



Become An Angel Today

Did you know...

In 2018, we awarded more than \$11.2 million in grants to support programs and initiatives that are providing essential services to residents of all ages in the USVI. As we continue to Build Forward from the Hurricanes of September 2017, your continued support is essential. Because of our Angels, CFVI will continue to expand and enhance our much-needed support to our community partners and programs.

CFVI Angels are those people who make annual donations to support all programs and initiatives through the Foundation to benefit members of the community on St. Croix, St. John and St. Thomas.

This is your opportunity to join the largest philanthropic network in the territory. Help us to make a difference by making an annual donation of \$500 or more. Make your Angels donation today either in full or by starting off with a \$250 donation with the rest of your annual contribution to follow by the end of August.

Contact Katrin Braddell at Katrinb@cfvi.net for more information
Learn more about Angels by visiting <https://cfvi.co/Angel>

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During construction our office is open. Please feel free to stop by our office; just be careful and mind your step when entering the roadway from Main Street or Back Street.

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*Don't Forget to Check
Our Social Media!*