



In this Issue:

Grantee Highlights | Program Highlight
CFVI In Action | Community Spotlight
Awards & Recognition | And more!

[Visit our Website](#)

Grantee Highlight Love City Pan Dragons Storm Recovery

Love City Pan Dragons is St. John's only steel pan band, founded in 1996 as the Ghost Riders Youth Steel Orchestra, born out of a teen drug and pregnancy prevention after-school program. With nearly 30 members ranging in age from 6 to 70, Love City Pan Dragons is a staple of the St. John



community. The group used a 2018 grant from the Fund for the Virgin Islands (FFVI) to repair their truck, trolley, and air conditioners, which Hurricanes Irma and Maria had either damaged or completely destroyed. In the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, CFVI was eager to support organizations providing opportunities for residents to engage in activities promoting a sense of normalcy.

[Click here to learn more about the Pan Dragons.](#)

[Click here to watch a brief video of the Pan Dragons playing at St. John Carnival.](#)

Grantee Highlight My Brother's Workshop Marine

Following the 2017 storms, MBW noticed that the community lacked the amount of skilled workers in the marine field for welding, carpentry, fiber glassing, and wood bending to do many of the repairs needed. Maintaining their core mission of providing hope, faith, and purpose to at-risk and high-risk young people, MBW decided to expand their offerings and establish a marine division, focused on boat repair and maintenance.

Equipped with hands-on training and education, the young people of MBW's first marine cohort spent seven months learning the skills necessary to build a boat by hand. On July 19, 2019, "Grace" (pictured right) was launched from the St. Thomas Yacht Club, marking a tremendous accomplishment for MBW Marine and their trainees. CFVI was proud to support this initiative through a 2018 grant from the Fund for the Virgin Islands.



For additional photos and information about this program visit these links below:

[My Brother's Workshop Launch](#)

[Additional photos from launch day](#)

Program Highlight

The Virgin Islands Children's Museum

Museums for All Program



With core support from CFVI through the Princess Cruises Community Foundation, the Virgin Islands Children's Museum (VICM) has joined Museums for All, a signature access program of the Association of Children's Museums and the Institute of Museum and Library Services intended to encourage families of all backgrounds to visit museums regularly and build lifelong museum habits. The program enables low-income families to visit the Virgin Islands Children's Museum for a reduced admission fee of \$2.00 per person with the presentation of a valid SNAP Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card (limit 4 visitors per card).

Think about visiting VICM with your children today! [Click here for more information.](#)



Grantee Highlight

Island Health and Wellness Center

Island Health and Wellness Center, located in St. John, used grants from the Fund for the Virgin Islands (FFVI) and the HelpUSVINow! Fund to re-establish, revamp, and expand their healthcare services after being destroyed during Hurricanes Irma and Maria. The funds allowed them to reinstate their original programs, launch new programs, and maintain their core mission of providing quality primary, preventive and educational medical services for patients regardless of income, issue, treatment, length of appointment or insurance status. In the 25 months the center has been open, it has treated more than 1,240 patients through nearly 3,300 patient

visits.

For more information about Island Health and Wellness Center, click [here](#).

CFVI in Action

CFVI has partnered with several organizations through the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) to bring much needed assistance throughout the Territory. During the most recent CGI forum - hosted in St. Thomas in June - we announced our partnership with Catchafire to make skill-based connections between professional volunteers and other non-profits. Through this partnership, 150 USVI not-for-profit organizations will benefit from pro-bono assistance from talented and qualified professionals across the nation. Read about the announcement [here](#).



Photo caption: CFVI Board Chair George H. T. Dudley and Catchafire COO Katherine Wu Brady join former U.S. President Bill Clinton on stage to announce CFVI commitments to action.

CFVI also announced a grant to Lutheran Social Services to increase solar energy capacity and energy efficiency at the Queen Louise Home for Children on St. Croix. [See photo here!](#)

Finally, our support of the American Federation of Teachers service trip to carry out health screenings in USVI public schools was also highlighted. [See video presentation here.](#)

CFVI Junior Angels

- Participated in a Bovoni Beautification Project in which the re-purposed old tires were used to create planters within the Bovoni Housing community.

[Read more here.](#)

- Delivered school supplies to five teachers in St. Thomas through a partnership with the Adopt-a-Classroom program that was formed post Hurricanes Irma and Maria in an effort to provide classrooms and teachers with much needed supplies that were lost due to the devastation.

[See photos here.](#)

Delivering NICU Equipment for Juan F. Luis Hospital

Dee Brown visits Juan F. Luis Hospital to celebrate the arrival of new equipment for the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) purchased through a grant from the Fund for the Virgin Islands.

Reopening of Griffith Park Playground

On April 16, 2019, CFVI joined community partners to reveal the new playground and revitalized gathering area at Emile Griffith Park in St. Thomas. CFVI spearheaded the initiative, with generous funding from Carnival Cruise Line.

[Click here to watch a brief video.](#)

[Click here to read more.](#)

Community Spotlight

CFVI was fortunate to have received a generous donation of children's toys, clothing, and school supplies from the now-closed *Sanrio* store through owner **Sandra Rivera**. Her only request was to get the items to children in need. In order to make the donation possible, **Luz Toro** of VITECNO Diesel donated her truck to deliver the goods to the Foundation, with assistance from the brothers of **Bailey's Waste Management**, who donated their time to facilitate the complicated delivery to our office.

Recipients of the donated items included the **Queen Louise Home for Children** (with

the assistance of Ian Williams and his team members at **Ebenezer Gardens**), **VI Partners for Healthy Communities**, and the **Department of Human Services Infants and Toddlers Program**.

The outpouring of love and generosity stemming from this donation has truly been an inspiration. Thank you to all those who played a role in facilitating these contributions.

[Click here for photos of receiving and distributing the toys.](#)

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized by the USVI PTSA for our support and invaluable contribution during post Hurricanes Irma and Maria.
- Recognized by readers of the Virgin Islands Daily News as "Best Youth Oriented Community Organization" for St. Thomas.
- Recognized by Fundacion Comunatria de Puerto Rico (Community Foundation of Puerto Rico) for our support post Hurricanes Irma and Maria.



Thank You CFVI Angels

We were honored to host two Thank You Events, one on St. Croix in February and one in St. Thomas in May, in which we were able to Thank our generous Angels. Without them none of this would be possible.



We are Proud to have earned the Charity Navigator 4-Star Rating for demonstrating strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

CFVI Staff

[Dee Baecher-Brown](#)
President

[Anna Wheatley Scarbriel](#)
Director of Grants and Programs

[Beth Nuttall](#)
Executive Manager

[Sean Liphard](#)
Communications Manager

[Katrin Braddell](#)
Development Partner

[Sakile Braithwaite-Hall](#)
Foundation Projects Manager

[Susan Clark](#)
Accountant

[Jenna Smoczyk](#)
Administrative and Accounting Assistant

Connect with us

