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# Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands' Partnership with Catchafire Ignites Pro Bono Support for USVI Nonprofits

Over 1,100 volunteer hours donated and more than \$225,000 saved in five months

Volunteers invited to lend expertise to community organizations in the Territory

**U.S. Virgin Islands, February 4, 2020** — For the past five months, the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI) has been providing 150 nonprofit organizations in the Territory with access to Catchafire, an online platform that matches nonprofits with skilled professionals who want to donate their time and talents to help with organizational needs such as marketing, IT, coaching, financial planning, communications and much more. CFVI is partnering with Catchafire to provide access to the service through January 2021, allowing the nonprofits to match with pro bono professionals all over the U.S. and around the world on a wide range of projects.

Catchafire can assist with more than 130 types of projects in a variety of categories. Each project is scoped out with useful steps, expectations, and recommended timelines that eliminate the time an organization would typically spend writing up instructions for a volunteer.

"We've watched nonprofits across the Territory use Catchafire to meet a wide range of needs – from leadership coaching to data analysis to graphic design," said CFVI President Dee Baecher-Brown. "We're looking forward to seeing how much can be

accomplished through this impactful partnership over the next year as we continue to build forward here in the Virgin Islands."

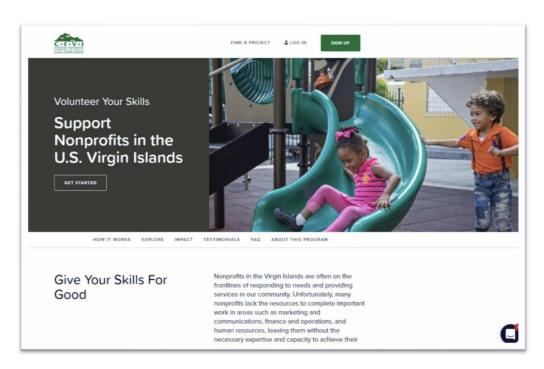
Since the program's launch in September of last year, volunteers have donated over 1,100 hours to USVI nonprofits, saving the nonprofits more than \$225,000.

"So far the Catchafire experience has been amazing!" said Rashida Lester, Director of Programs at My S.I.S.T.A.H.S. Keeper, Inc. in St. Croix. "It is almost surreal that a small organization like ours can receive so much valuable and priceless assistance in so many critical areas. We are working with a number of volunteers on a variety of projects, including website usability audit, logo design, and program assessments. We 'caught the fire' right away and have saved so much time and money," she said.

## **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

CFVI invites individuals with an interest in helping USVI nonprofits, whether they're located in the Territory or beyond, to register as a volunteer with Catchafire and lend their expertise to organizations seeking help.

For more information and to sign up, visit **cfvi.catchafire.org/volunteer-now**.



## **About the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands**

Since 1990, the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI) has been a catalyst for positive change in the Territory through initiatives committed to youth, learning, family support and the environment. With a professional staff and a volunteer Board of Directors composed of community leaders, CFVI is a trusted advocate and supporter of programs that ensure opportunity and sustainability for current and future generations. CFVI is a registered non-profit organization entirely supported by individual donors, grants, trusts, corporate donations and estate planning. For more information, visit cfvi.net.

### **About Catchafire**

Catchafire is a full service, on-demand solution designed to address the wide-ranging and complex needs of nonprofits by connecting them with talented pro bono professionals. Through Catchafire's innovative web-based platform and network of more than 10 million professionals, nonprofits have access to people with expert skills who can help them with operational needs such as developing a website, building a strategic plan, designing a brochure, professional development, and other areas of critical work. Catchafire's scalable and cost-effective model makes it possible for grantmakers to provide a full suite of capacity building services to any nonprofit that the foundation seeks to serve. Catchafire and its foundation partners are not only helping nonprofits improve their capacity, sustainability, and effectiveness, but also leveling the playing field by making capacity building available to any nonprofit or changemaker.