

THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR GOVERNMENT HOUSE Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00802 340-774-0001

HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the National Coalition for the Homeless and National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness has designated November 12-20, 2022 as "National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week"; and

WHEREAS, the theme for this year's Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is "Finding Solutions to End Hunger and Homelessness"; and

WHEREAS, the Virgin Islands Interagency Council on Homelessness and the Virgin Islands Continuum of Care on Homelessness recognize that homelessness and hunger are serious problems facing many individuals and families in the Territory; and

WHEREAS, there are many reasons why people in the United States Virgin Islands are hungry and homeless, including the shortage of affordable housing, and insufficient support services for our vulnerable populations. In order to eliminate the risk of homelessness, it is necessary to develop a housing supply to address different housing needs, and increase the level of available support, including via partnerships with homeless assistance service providers, faith-based organizations, and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, there are many organizations committed to sheltering, providing meals and food supplies or linkage to supportive services to people experiencing homelessness or at-risk for homelessness including: Methodist Training and Outreach Center, Catholic Charities of the Virgin Islands, My Brother's Table; St. Croix Mission Outreach, Women's Coalition of St. Croix, Frederiksted

Healthcare, Inc., Family Resource Center, Inc., Salvation Army, Light House Mission, Community First!, Eagles Nest and St. John Community Foundation, Inc. and Ten Thousand Helpers of St. Croix.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Albert Bryan Jr., Governor of the United States Virgin Islands, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Revised Organic Act of 1954, as amended, do proclaim November 12-November 20, 2022, as "Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week" in the United States Virgin Islands. I call upon all residents, businesses, and community organizations to join me as we recognize and thank those in our community for their services to our homeless and hungry population. I further call upon all residents, businesses, and community organizations to partner financially and/or volunteer time to aid the vulnerable people in our community to eliminate hunger and homelessness in the United States Virgin Islands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States to be affixed at Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, this 25 day of October, A. D. 2022.

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Albert Bryan, Jr. Governor

Attest:

Lieutenant Governor