



THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00802
340-774-0001

VIRGIN ISLANDS HOUSING MONTH

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

A PROCLAMATION

Safe, decent, and sanitary housing is important to the United States Virgin Islands and its citizens.

Owning a home is a major aspiration of Virgin Islanders and a testimony of personal identity, and a fundamental unit of the community. Adequate housing is key, not only to the welfare of individual families, but to the overall economic development of the Territory.

A healthy housing industry provides families with affordable housing opportunities, and the chance to build equity, strengthen the tax base, create jobs, and open doors for further growth and development.

The Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority and the Virgin Islands Housing Authority has provided eligible applicants with diverse housing opportunities through their many and varied programs.

On October 20, 1981, the Legislature of the Virgin Islands and the Virgin Islands Government by Act No. 4636, created the Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority for the express purpose of operating the Affordable Housing Program for low and moderate income residents in the Territory.

The Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority commenced operation in 1984. In 2007, the Legislature of the Virgin Islands and the Government by Act No. 6973 transferred the housing functions of the Department of Housing, Parks and Recreation to the Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority.

For over thirty-three years, many Virgin Islanders have achieved the housing dream through low interest mortgage loans, major rehabilitation and revitalization projects, increased availability of affordable housing and the joint efforts of the Government and the private industry. It is in the public best interest and essential to the public health and welfare to continue to encourage homeownership and provide decent, safe and sanitary housing for persons of low- and moderate-income.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Osbert E. Potter, Acting Governor of the Virgin Islands of the United States, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Revised Organic Act of 1954, as amended, do hereby proclaim the month of June, 2017, as *Housing Month* in the Virgin Islands. I urge all residents to join with me in supporting agencies of the Federal and Virgin Islands Governments, and their efforts to provide safe, decent, sanitary and affordable housing for the people of the Territory.

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 ____ day of June 2017.



Osbert E. Potter
Acting Governor

ATTEST:

Senator Nereida Rivera-O'Reilly
32nd Legislature
Acting Lieutenant Governor