

For Immediate Release

For More Information, Contact:

Resa O'Reilly Shearn

Phone: (340) 513-0446

Email: info@projectpromisevi.com

**PROJECT PROMISE CELEBRATED ITS 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY
AT ITS ANNUAL HAVANA NIGHTS EVENT**

ST. CROIX, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (FEBRUARY 21, 2024) – On Saturday, February 10, almost 300 people attended Project Promise's annual Havana Nights fundraiser at the St. George Village Botanical Garden in Frederiksted. This year the popular event, which featured a "Botanical Gardens of Cuba" theme, also doubled as the organization's 10-year anniversary celebration.

Resa O'Reilly Shearn founded Project Promise in 2014 after seeing the many challenges facing St. Croix's youth. Since then, the nonprofit organization, which is dedicated to improving the lives of at-risk youths in St. Croix has created a variety of programs that teach youth how to make positive choices, avoid risky behavior, tap into their full potential, and lead happier, healthier lives.

"This year's Havana Nights event was a huge success!" Resa exclaims. "We raised over \$65,000, all of which will provide much-needed support for Project Promise's ongoing programming."

Attendees at Havana Nights enjoyed live Cuban music, salsa dancing, delicious Cuban food, an online silent auction, and a fun domino challenge game. In addition, sponsors received a copy of Project Promise's limited edition full-color hard-cover 10-Year Anniversary Commemorative Book.

One of the highlights of the evening were the testimonies shared by Project Promise's Partners & Parents. The stories of the organization's impact, programs and events helped attendees understand the significant impact that Project Promise has had over its 10-year history.

Another highlight was the presentation of the 2024 Excellence and Leadership Recognition Program Awards. Each year three outstanding St. Croix high school students are honored for their achievements and presented with scholarships. This year's honorees were Nasir Edwin Saldana of the St. Croix Central High School, Allarie Monsanto of the St. Croix Educational Complex and N'Keyfa Williams of the St. Croix Career & Technical School. This year Project Promise was able to double the size of the scholarships, to \$1,000 per student.

The evening concluded with a Grand Prize raffle drawing. Rebecca Pierpoint, the lucky winner, was extremely excited to win round-trip airfare for two to Cuba.

Project Promise invites the public to come celebrate its 10th Anniversary at this year's Havana Nights. Project Promise's annual Havana Nights fundraiser, featuring Cuban music, food and salsa dancing will be held on February 10th at St. George Village Botanical Garden; tickets will be available through the organization's website, www.projectpromistvi.com.