

For Immediate Release

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PROJECT PROMISE'S POPULAR BUCK ISLAND PROGRAM RETURNS FOR ITS 5TH YEAR

ST. CROIX, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (OCTOBER 25, 2023) – Project Promise, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of at-risk youths in St. Croix is excited to announce that the fifth year of its popular Buck Island Program, which gives local public school fifth grade students the opportunity to visit and learn about the Buck Island Reef National Monument, is currently underway.

The three-part Buck Island program includes a field trip to Buck Island as well as two classroom visits by a park ranger. Students learn about Buck Island's ecological significance and cultural history and get the opportunity to experience the island's wonders first-hand.

Many of the costs of this year's program are being covered by a \$11,200 grant from the National Parks Foundation. This includes the costs of ground transportation, boat transportation to and from the island (generously provided at a discount by Big Beard's Adventure Tours), and for program coordination.

"The reality is," Project Promise Executive Director and Founder Resa O'Reilly Shearn shares, "although it is nearby, the vast majority of our students aren't afforded the opportunity to visit this beautiful national park, as it is only accessible via boat. We are thrilled that fifth grade students from all seven public elementary schools in St. Croix will be having this amazing experience."

ABOUT PROJECT PROMISE

Project Promise is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of at-risk youth on St. Croix by providing empowerment initiatives, cultural programs, and family services. To learn more about Project Promise, please visit the website at www.projectpromisevi.com .