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## **PROJECT PROMISE HELPS HOUSTON FAMILY MAKE THE HOLIDAYS SPECIAL FOR 20 LOCAL SCHOOLCHILDREN**

**ST. CROIX, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS, (December 23, 2020)**—When Resa O'Reilly, the founder and president of St. Croix non-profit Project Promise, travels, she loves doing service projects that positively impact the local community at her destination. So, when Resa recently received a phone call from a like-minded Houston mom, she got quite excited. Lereca Monik and her daughter LeReine—a 7-year-old model, philanthropist and speaker nicknamed “Cookie”—were planning to spend Christmas in St. Croix. While in town they wanted to do a community service project to impact local kids in need. Could Project Promise assist? Yes, of course!

As a result of that conversation, Project Promise coordinated a toy distribution event for 20 Lew Muckle Elementary School students. Teachers were asked to identify one child in each class who was both in need and well-deserving. Those chosen were students who have been participating in class, doing their best to exhibit good behavior, and devoting themselves to learning in spite of the challenges that our current distance learning model presents.

Armed with a list of each selected student's name, age and grade level, Cookie and her mom went toy shopping in Houston and then brought their purchases with them on their trip. These toys were distributed to the selected 20 students at the drive-by or walk-by Cookie Cares Toy Distribution Event at Lew Muckle Elementary School at 2:00 pm on December 23rd.

“Project Promise is thrilled to have this opportunity to help impact children here in our community,” Resa says. “When I learned that Cookie was just seven years old and has her own website devoted to philanthropy ([www.CookieCares.org](http://www.CookieCares.org)), I was even more excited. Cookie's website talks about ‘Love, Gratitude, Care,’ and we are grateful to be able to help her and her family spread some loving care here in St. Croix this holiday season.”

### **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 their website at [www.projectpromisevi.com](http://www.projectpromisevi.com).