

For Immediate Release

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PRESS RELEASE

**PROJECT PROMISE CATERPILLAR DONATES FUNDRAISING PROCEEDS TO
LOCKHART ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands (June 4, 2019) – On Friday, Project Promise donated \$750 to the Lockhart School Elementary school's library. Project Promise founder and president Resa O'Reilly made the presentation, along with Project Promise Caterpillar student Vianca Medina, during a trip to St. Thomas last week. Medina has been on a book tour across the Territory to promote her book "Dream a Dream" and read to students in different schools, and it was during the last leg of the tour when O'Reilly presented the check.

"Project Promise remains committed to enhancing the quality of education for students in the territory and we are extremely thrilled to assist the Lockhart Elementary School provide additional resources for their students with our donation to their library", said O'Reilly.

Lockhart School librarian Merle Vanterpool was extremely grateful and said the students will benefit greatly from the donation. "This gift will help in the promoting of literacy amongst our future leaders as it provides our students equal access to resources and inspire a lifetime of learning," said Vanterpool.

According to Vanterpool, the monies will be used to purchase magazine subscriptions for publications such as Highlights, Ranger Rick, Click and Sports Illustrated for Kids, which will encourage the students to visit the library more often. The funds will also be used to purchase robots which teach hands-on coding skills, another tool to motivate students to visit the library regularly.

Proceeds from the donation came from Project Promise's 2018 Havana Nights fundraiser. After hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017, O'Reilly pledged to donate ten percent of the proceeds to one school in St. Thomas, and one school in St. Croix. Lew Muckle Elementary was selected as the school on St. Croix. During the St. Thomas trip, Medina also donated several books to all three Little Free Library locations on the island.

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For more information about The Caterpillar Project, or to purchase tickets, please contact Resa O'Reilly at (340) 513-0446. 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.