GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

PRESS RELEASE

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Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association Partners with Government of the Virgin Islands for Holiday Gift Project

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The Ministry of Communications and Works is proud to announce the successful completion of its annual Holiday Gift Project, hosted in partnership with the Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association (FCCA) at the Cyril B. Romney Tortola Pier Park. This yearly initiative aimed to bring joy and festive cheer to children throughout the Virgin Islands.

Annually, the Ministry of Communications and Works is responsible for identifying a non-profit organisation that is centred around children. The organisation selected this year was Mentoring Anointed Leaders Everywhere (M.A.L.E.) and FEMALE. M.A.L.E. is an innovative programme designed to support practical guidance for young boys on their journey to adulthood. Officially founded on February 15, 2014, by Mr. Henderson Tittle, M.A.L.E. was established to cultivate, foster, renew, and promote activities that enrich the lives of its members and our community at large. Boys are offered a safe environment where they can talk about their struggles in their everyday lives, are praised for their unique gifts, are supported when they make mistakes, and are part of a community of mentors who listen and believe in their ability to become great men.

In 2022, after hearing the constant cries from parents within the community, FEMALE was established as an arm of M.A.L.E., and with that, Fostering, Empowering & Mentoring Anointed Leaders Everywhere began. The original principle remains the same: to save the next generation. The age range for both M.A.L.E and FEMALE children is 6-18.

Through this collaborative effort, the Ministry of Communications and Works and the FCCA gathered and distributed presents to children from toddlers to adolescents. These gifts were sponsored by the local business Diamond International, which must be recognised for its kind contribution.

The project continues to serve as a meaningful way to promote goodwill, express appreciation, and support families across the territory during the holiday season.

Minister for Communications and Works, Honourable Kye Rymer said, “We are delighted to partner with the FCCA for this meaningful initiative. The Holiday Gift Project reflects our commitment to the communities we serve and demonstrates

the importance of giving back during the holiday season.”

The gifts distributed by the staff of Diamond International and the staff and crew of the Norwegian Gem included toys, educational materials, and other essential items, all carefully selected to brighten the holidays and make a positive impact on the lives of children and families throughout the Virgin Islands.

The Government of the Virgin Islands and the Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association extend heartfelt gratitude to Diamond International and the staff and crew of Norwegian Gem for their unwavering support and generosity, which made this project possible.

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