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Changes Caused by Coronavirus (Updated as More Closures, Postponements and Cancelations are Announced)

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St. Thomas East End Medical Center Corporation Has Announced Temporary Changes to Patient Intake and Visits

The St. Thomas East End Medical Center Corporation has instituted a series of new visitation policies in an effort to mitigate the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

According to a written statement Monday, “In an effort to ensure the safety of our patients, providers and staff during this time, we have instituted changes until further notice.”

The changes include:

- All medical and dental patients will be pre-screened before being allowed to enter the center.
- STEEMC. will see medical and dental patients who are sick or require immediate medical attention
- STEEMCC will see patients with scheduled immunizations
- STEEMCC will see OB Patients with scheduled appointments

If you are sick and display any flu-like symptoms, please call the medical center before coming in. The STEEMCC representative will provide arrival instructions from our medical staff.

“If you have a scheduled medical or dental appointment and are not sick or display any symptoms, please stay at home. Your medical or dental provider will contact you on or around your appointment time to address any concerns you may have as well as provide prescription refills,” the STEEMCC written statement said.

Please call us at 340-775-3700 with any questions or concerns.

For the latest updates and tips on preventative measures please visit <https://cdc.gov> or <https://doh.vi.gov/covid19usvi>.

VITEMA Course Cancellations

Given the current situation on COVID19, the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center (NDPTC) along with our partners have decided to cancel all deliveries of the following trainings in the USVI for at least the next 30 days, VITEMA has announced. "Once a new date has been identified, we will announce," the agency said.

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Coral World Cancels Sea Events

Coral World has canceled all sea events until further notice in wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Art Thursday Gallery Walk Cancellation

The normally scheduled monthly Art Walk in Christiansted will be cancelled this Thursday, March 19th in support of the necessary social distancing required to keep the community at lessened risk.

Please feel free to contact any of the galleries individually as many will remain open at this point as well as by private appointment, with necessary precautions in place. Stay tuned also via social media and online for how to remain connected to this diverse community of artists.

Art at the Top Hat, balter, Barbara's Art Studio, Cafe Christine, Chaney Chick's, Christa's Art Gallery, Crucian Gold, Eden South, Henle Gallery, ib Designs, Iona Skye, Joyia Inspirational Jewelry, Maufe Gallery, Mitchell Larsen Studio. Sonya Ltd., the Alcove and the sponsoring businesses; Asha, From the Gecko, the Shoe Bar, Abby's Lingerie Zion Modern Kitchen and

Remax wish to thank the St. Croix community for their continued support and look forward to seeing you soon.

Special Olympics Games Postponed

Rhe VI Special Olympics on St. Croix has been postponed. The games were scheduled to be held Saturday, March 21 at the Renaissance Park. No date has been selected yet.

Department of Education: Music In Our Schools Month

The Virgin Islands Department of Education, Division of Music Education and Programs, has announced the cancellation of all Music In Our Schools Month activities scheduled for the month of March. Rescheduled activities will be announced at a later date.

2020 St. Thomas International Regatta

Organizers of the St. Thomas International Regatta (STIR) have postponed the 2020 event, originally scheduled for March 27-29. The decision was made in line with health and safety recommendations taken by the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. "We are truly sorry to have to postpone one of the Caribbean's premier events," says regatta director, Bill Canfield.

Schools Updates

[Good Hope Country Day](#) and [St. Croix Free Will Baptist School](#) halts on-campus learning.

Antilles School

Students will not return to Antilles School on St. Thomas until at least Monday, April 6th.

School administrators informed parents, students and faculty that classes, after-school activities, sports, theatre and art activities are on hold as a result of the COVID-19 situation.

The school's distance learning plans will be activated on Wednesday, March 25th, and will continue for at least two weeks after spring vacation, students, parents and staff were informed.

Ivanna Eudora Kean H.S.

The Forensic Science class at the Ivanna Eudora Kean High School has announced the cancellation of its Second Annual V.I. Afternoon Tea that was scheduled for March 15 in the school's cafeteria.

A new date will be announced in the future.

VITRAN Steps Up Sanitization Measures

The Department of Public Works, Office of Public Transportation has ramped up its cleaning efforts to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 (coronavirus) on its VITRAN buses and facilities. VITRAN recognizes that a large percentage of its patrons are senior citizens and wants to reassure its ridership that extra precautionary measures have been taken to ensure that the buses are safe and clean.

“We want the community to know that the department is keeping a watchful eye on the current state of this pandemic outbreak;” said Karole Ovesen-McGregor, Deputy Commissioner of Transportation. “We are taking an active role in risk mitigation to protect our riders.”

Stacey Plaskett Announces Changes to Office Operations

Delegate to Congress Stacey Plaskett on Friday announced changes to office operations in both her Washington, D.C. office and Virgin Islands offices. The changes are as follows:

The physical location of the Washington, DC office will be closed March 16 through March 20, 2020, and staff will be teleworking. All meetings will be held virtually.

The Virgin Islands offices in St. Croix and St. Thomas will also be closed March 16 through March 20, 2020. All meetings will be held virtually.

“In order to assist in preventing the spread of COVID-19, my office is protectively introducing new measures to limit social contact and potential exposure to the virus,” said Plaskett. “The health and safety of our community is our top priority. We will continue serving constituents in a virtual capacity and my office phone numbers remain operational.”

“I encourage all Virgin Islanders to take this public health threat seriously and continue following the guidelines of both the CDC and local public health officials. Also, please contact the Department of Health hotlines directly if you need any assistance or information. Those numbers are 340-712-6299 on St. Croix and 340-776-1519 on St. Thomas.”