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Make It Happen Foundation Sets Aug. 22-23 T-Off-4 Tuition Weekend; All Proceeds Support VI Student Scholarships

Make It Happen Foundation's Aug. 22 cocktail reception and Aug. 23 golf benefit at Carambola will raise scholarship funds for students pursuing college, vocational training and trade certifications. Admission is \$75 Saturday and \$175 Sunday, respectively.

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ST. CROIX — The Make It Happen Foundation will hold its second annual T-Off-4 Tuition fundraising weekend Aug. 22-23, pairing an Island-Chic Cocktail Reception with a golf benefit to support Virgin Islands students pursuing higher education, vocational training and trade certifications. The foundation says proceeds from both events will go entirely toward scholarships.

The weekend begins Saturday, Aug. 22, with the cocktail reception, priced at \$75, followed Sunday, Aug. 23, by the \$175 T-Off-4 Tuition Golf Benefit at Carambola Golf Club on St. Croix. The foundation, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, supports Virgin Islands youth through scholarships, mentorship, life-skills development and other educational assistance.

Scholarship Recipients Pursue Psychology and Social Work

The foundation pointed to its first two scholarship recipients as examples of how the program is being used. Gelysia Anderson, the organization's first recipient, graduated from Howard University with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and has been accepted to the University of Maryland to pursue a master's degree.

Its second recipient, J'Neolise Green, is a sophomore at Winston-Salem State University in North Carolina, where she is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Social Work. According to the foundation, both recipients intend to return to St. Croix after completing their education and use their training in service to the Virgin Islands community.

The foundation said that goal reflects its longer-term approach of helping students obtain education and professional skills that can later be reinvested in the territory. Business leaders, community partners, golfers and other supporters are expected to participate in the two-day fundraiser.

Cocktail Reception Set for Saturday

Saturday's Island-Chic Cocktail Reception will include entertainment, music, finger foods, desserts and a signature cocktail as part of the \$75 admission. Guests will also have opportunities to network and enter raffles.

Sunday's \$175 golfer registration includes golf, breakfast, lunch, and gifts and prizes for participants and winners. The release describes the golf benefit as raising money for scholarships and other educational assistance for Virgin Islands students.

"Our mission extends beyond awarding scholarships," said Nykole Tyson, Founder and President of the Make It Happen Foundation. "With the community's support, we are investing in the future of the Virgin Islands by helping our students pursue their educational goals and preparing them to return home to make a meaningful difference in our community. Every ticket purchased, every sponsorship secured, and every donation received helps make that possible. It takes a village, and together, we are that village."

Tickets, Golf Registration and Sponsorships Available

Community members can participate by purchasing cocktail reception tickets, registering a golf team, becoming sponsors or making donations. The foundation said contributions directly support its work focused on the education and future success of Virgin Islands students.

Sponsors listed for the event are NAPA Auto Parts, Kiewit Haugland KHVI, VI Lottery, CC1 Wine & Spirits, Ultra Michelob, Coca-Cola, The West Indian Company, Island Parts & Supplies, Buccaneer Beach Resort, Cane Bay Partners VI LLLP, Kirk & Leah Chewing, Bates Trucking, Star Light Lounge, Fly The Whale, Urban Foot Care Center, Indu-Tech VI, J. Benton Construction, Imaging Center PC, RT Park, SMG LLC, One Construction LLC, Paradise Peak Builders, La Reine Chicken Shack, Alternative Real Estate, Estate Shield VI, NT Media Productions, I'm Making It Happen, WSTX Radio, WJKC Stations, ABC Reef Broadcasting Stations and The Virgin Islands Consortium.

Additional information, cocktail tickets, golfer registration and sponsorship opportunities are available through MakeItHappenFoundation.org or by calling 1-857-575-2865. Media inquiries may be directed to Tyson at the same number or at makeithappenfoundationinc@gmail.com.

The Make It Happen Foundation describes its mission as empowering Virgin Islands youth through education, mentorship, personal development, vocational training, trade certifications and scholarship opportunities, with an emphasis on developing professionals who can return home and contribute to the territory.

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