

The Virgin Islands Consortium

New Foundation Gets \$206,500 In Funding To Aid Children, Adults With Chronic Illnesses

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Children and adults in the U.S. Virgin Islands living with chronic illnesses such as cancer, Hodgkin's disease and diabetes will be glad to know that the newly established Nigel O. Hodge Foundation, Inc., was created specifically to assist them.

The not-for-profit foundation, while new, has long ties to the original non-profit, Nigel O. Fund, which was established under the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI) in 1996. According to a press release issued by CFVI, six-year-old Nigel's life was cut short because of mistakes made by the doctors treating his Hodgkin's lymphoma disease the young boy had been diagnosed with just two weeks before his death.

Determined not to let their son's death to be in vain, Josephine and Chester Hodge, with \$100,000 acquired from a wrongful death lawsuit, started the Nigel O. Hodge Fund.

Now an independent entity, the Nigel O. Hodge Foundation has been given a full transfer of \$206,500 remaining in the fund for its establishment.

CFVI applauded the Hodge family for its work over the years, and said it was an honor to assist the family in establishing the original fund in 1996.

"The initial donation of \$100,000 [to the Nigel O. Fund] has grown to \$206,500 and provided more than \$300,000 in grants and services related to children with critical illnesses and supporting their families. Numerous families have been comforted knowing that during such a challenging time, they have not had to endure alone," the release states.

For more information about the Nigel O. Hodge Foundation, Inc., call Josephine Hodge at (340) 777-9530 or send e-mail to nigeloledgefoundation1@gmail.com.