

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Christmas Comes In July As Rakeem Christmas Continues Giveback To USVI

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ST. CROIX -- The Rakeem Christmas Foundation (RCF) announced recently its block party to be held on Friday, July 21 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

The event will include music from St. Croix's Fusion Band as well as other artists and performers at the Caravelle Hotel's Block on the Christiansted Waterfront adjacent to Rum Runners Restaurant.

Food will be provided by nonprofit vendors such as the Boys & Girls Club and the RCF Team, as all fundraising will benefit the youth of the territory, according to the release.

In attendance will be the NBA players helping to host the RCF Christmas in July event, sponsors and more. The block will be cordoned for safe access.

According to the release, Mr. Christmas, who last played with the Indiana Pacers, desires to create multiple events that will not only benefit the children, but bring about entertainment and fun for the entire community. A VIP reception and silent auction is slated for Thursday, July 20, (6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.) at Diageo's visitor center, with RCF being the benefactor.

Mr. Christmas grew up on St. Croix and is currently a second-year NBA athlete with the Indiana Pacers. He was [recently waived](#) by the team. In addition to [renovating severely dilapidated courts](#) throughout the Virgin Islands region, Mr. Christmas's desire is to create opportunities that will showcase youth who are highly skilled and capable of excelling in the sport that he has come to love. Providing safe courts to hone their talents is just one key step forward in realizing this vision, the release says.

RCF: Christmas in July 2017 is slated for July 17-23, 2017.

Space is limited for the VIP event and expected to sell out. Tickets can be purchased online by visiting www.ChristmasBasketball.com Both events will sponsor and support the foundation's rehabilitation projects of neighborhood/community basketball courts and the RCF All Star Team.