

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Tropical Shipping & Saltchuk Donate \$10,000 To Queen Louise Home For Children

VIC News / **Published On August 23, 2019 11:20 PM /**

Staff **August 23, 2019**



ST. CROIX -- Vice President of Tropical Shipping Hispanola & USVI, Maria del Mar Rodríguez, and Manager of Tropical Shipping St. Croix, Karla Yhan, delivered a \$10,000 contribution to Queen Louise Home for Children on Wednesday, Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands (LSSVI) announced Friday.

The donation will assist recovery efforts at Queen Louise Home, which is still under repairs from damages sustained during Hurricane Maria. Saltchuk Resources Inc. and Tropical Shipping have been working to support recovery efforts at LSSVI and have also given back to a number of other community organizations in recent months, the release said.

Both Ms. Rodriguez and Ms. Yhan credited the inspiration for the gift to Jennifer Nugent-Hill, director of governmental & community affairs at Tropical Shipping, and Richard Berry. Mr. Berry is a longtime supporter of Queen Louise Home for Children and president of Leeward Islands Management Company. He has been active supporter and advocate of the program for over 20 years. In 2018, he facilitated a donation from the Marion and John E. Anderson Foundation that brought \$400,000 of support to at a crucial time in LSSVI's recovery.

"After the storm, we were deeply concerned for both our programs and supporters, because we knew that we were all hurting together. Richard has been a guardian angel for the children at Queen Louise Home, and his constant efforts to bring love to our doors has kept us motivated and hopeful," said Junia John-Straker, chief executive officer of LSSVI.

Contributions to Queen Louise Home fund the costs of operating the program 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Children first come to Queen Louise Home through the VI Department of Human Services as a result of abuse, neglect, and/or displacement, or for respite care when needed. The program is a part of Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands —the largest private child and family services agency in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Feature Image: (left to right) Karla Yhan, Manager of Tropical Shipping St. Croix; Susan Torres, Director of Queen Louise Home for Children; Maria del Mar Rodríguez, Vice President of Tropical Shipping Hispanola & USVI.