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## VI SBDC to Continue Commitment to Help Businesses Grow and Succeed Amid Covid-19 Pandemic

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The Virgin Islands Small Business Development Center (VI SBDC) said Friday it would continue to share its achievements in the form of best practices to fulfill its initiative to help businesses grow and succeed.

According to the nonprofit, more than ever, small businesses are staying afloat because of financial resources. The VI SBDC credits its partnerships with lenders like the Thomas USAF Group, an originator of large government-guaranteed loans and First Bank VI. “We want the general public to know that we are committed to the economic prosperity within the small business community more so in the climate of a pandemic,” said Karen Jones, VI SBDC associate state director. “Our staff works tirelessly to support clients with resources and expertise needed to stay open.”

According to the release, the VI SBDC has been recognized for its involvement with agencies like the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), USVI Economic Development Agency (USVI EDA), VI Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs (DLCA), St. Croix and St. Thomas-St. John Chambers of Commerce to name a few. Special edition newsletters provide resource links to training, supporting documents and updates from the SBA, America's Small Business Development Center (ASBDC) and the CDC.

The VI SBDC said it has since utilized its CARES Act funds to survey the impact on the territory's major industries, hire additional consultants and allow small businesses to receive services from UVI's Creativity Lab. All of which help the VI SBDC tailor its services to better serve local businesses.

These resources are currently available at [www.visbdc.org](http://www.visbdc.org).

For technical assistance and /or media inquiries, contact the Virgin Islands Small Business Development Center by telephone at (340) 693-1694 or email at [marketing@visbdc.org](mailto:marketing@visbdc.org).