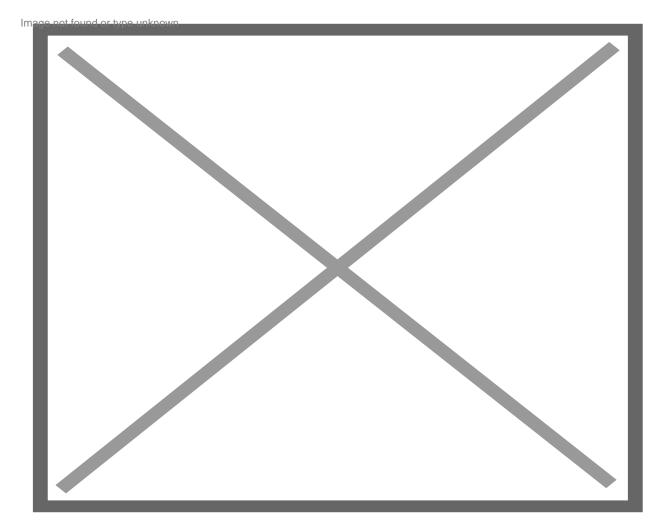
Bryan Announces Study Led by Virginia-Based Firm 'to Support Economic Recovery and Development' in USVI

Economy / Published On February 23, 2022 05:47 AM /

Staff Consortium February 23, 2022



Governor Albert Bryan on Tuesday announced a new USVI labor shed study whose aim is to support economic recovery and development across the territory, according to Government House.

The study, being conducted by Virginia-based firm <u>J&M Global Solutions</u> in conjunction with the University of the Virgin Islands, will assess workforce skills, identify training needs, and provide recommendations to better prepare the current workforce and a new generation of workers for job opportunities in the years ahead, stated a Gov't House release.

The study was made possible through funding and support from FEMA and the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

"This important study is a key component of the USVI Vision 2040 plan," Governor Bryan said. "The results will benefit the Territory greatly as we prepare our current workforce and invest in the next generation of home-grown talent, who are critical to the sustainment of our economy. The labor shed study team will be reaching out to many of you in the weeks ahead and I encourage you to participate and share your ideas and perspectives."

According to the release, labor shed study is designed to offer a "deep dive" into the USVI's workforce and the training/education systems that support it. The analysis will identify competitive advantages of the USVI workforce along with areas of potential challenges.

Specifically, the study will focus on current and future talent needs in the eight target industry sectors highlighted in the <u>USVI Vision 2040</u> report and will identify industry occupations in greatest demand. Recommendations will be provided on how to effectively train and upskill our residents for these growing careers.

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