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'USVI Storm Strong' Announces In-Person Youth Summer Camp; Proof of Vaccination Required to Participate

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USVI Storm Strong, a hurricane hazard preparation program that brings together private and public partners to develop long-term, high-impact, community-focused hurricane preparation skills on Friday announced through a release from the University of the Virgin Islands its free summer camp program.

"Hurricanes Irma and Maria were devastating storms that fundamentally changed our community. But, they also gave us a tremendous opportunity to think about how we can be more prepared for future storms," said project lead Dr. Kristin Wilson Grimes, a UVI assistant professor in the Center for Marine and Environmental Studies.

The USVI Storm Strong Program engages middle- and high-school youth and their families in workshops designed to increase their abilities to be prepared for a major storm, according to the release. The program launched in May 2018 and is funded through a \$500,000 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Environmental Literacy Program.

"Camp Storm Strong"

Camp Storm Strong 2022 aims to engage U.S. Virgin Islands middle-school students in activities centered around hurricane hazard preparedness and leadership, the release stated. The in-person camps will be hosted simultaneously on St. Thomas and St. Croix. The camp will feature a mix of hands-on classroom-based activities and lessons, field-trip experiences, virtual interactions between St. Thomas and St. Croix camps, plus fun at-home activities that families will complete together after each day of in-person camp, according to UVI.

Youth Leaders

To assist in preparing for and in leading camp activities and field trips, the USVI Storm Strong Program team will hire eight youth leaders (four on St. Thomas/St. John, four on St. Croix). Youth leaders must be high-schoolers or college undergraduates. Youth leaders will be compensated at \$15 hourly. Leaders must attend all camp sessions, as well as pre-camp training and preparation meetings, and post-camp debriefing.

Register [here](#) for the free summer camp or apply to be a youth leader by May 2, 2022. According to the release, proof of Covid-19 vaccination is required to participate.