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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.