THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES
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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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VI Workforce Development Board Announces Request for Service Providers

The Virgin Islands Workforce Development Board is seeking entities to provide Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) employment and training services to youth and adults ages 16-24.

The Board's mission is to assist the Governor in the development, implementation, and continuous improvement of the Virgin Islands workforce development system as well as create a skilled and prepared workforce. WIOA has six main purposes: increase access to and opportunity for employment, education, training, and support services for individuals, particularly those with barriers to employment; support the alignment of workforce development, education, and economic development systems in support of a comprehensive, accessible and high-quality workforce development system; improve the quality and labor market relevance of workforce development, education and economic development efforts; promote improvement in the structure and delivery of services; increase the delivery of workers and employers; provide workforce development activities that increase employment, retention, and earnings of participants and that increase post-secondary credential attainment and as a result, improves the quality of the workforce, reduces welfare dependency, increases economic self-sufficiency, meets skills requirement of employers, and enhances productivity and competitiveness of the territory and nation.

Areas of focus include: Administrative and support services, Allied Health, Architecture and Construction Trades, Information Technology, Leisure and Hospitality, Retail, Transportation

and Logistics, Engineering and Mathematics Agribusiness, Health Sciences and Renewable Energy and Maritime Industry.

Eligible entities who have demonstrated a successful performance history or have used evidenced-based practices are encouraged to apply. Entities may include educational organizations, non-profit organizations, business eligible associations and private-for-profit businesses. Successful performance also includes the WIOA Youth Program 14 youth elements as identified in the WIOA legislation by the US Department of Labor. The ability to provide services and/or access to some or all of these 14 elements will better serve our youth. More information on this is available here.

The Board is keenly aware of the need to provide a wide array of training to meet the demands for a well-trained and skilled workforce. The Board has updated its demand occupational list (see attached) in preparation for the upcoming recovery and infrastructure projects.

This Virgin Islands Workforce Development Board Request for Service Providers is supported through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Title I allocation by the Employment and Training Administration of the United States Department of Labor as part of an award totalling $2,292,224 with a varying percentage of funds financed from non-governmental sources.

Those interested in applying should visit www.viwib.org, email viswdb@dol.vi.gov; or contact 340-626-9207.

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