



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

For Immediate Release

March 23, 2021

Press Contact

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DHS Seeks Community Help in Identifying Emergency Shelters

(US Virgin Islands) - The Virgin Islands Department of Human Services (DHS) is seeking the Territory's help in identifying suitable structures to serve as evacuation shelters for the 2021 Atlantic Hurricane Season. Evacuation shelters provide a space for persons to stay safe during the passing of a storm.

As the lead emergency support agency for mass shelter and feeding during disasters, DHS is building our islands' capacity to shelter our citizens during notice events such as hurricanes.

In addition to being a sturdy structure that is away from coastlines, evacuation shelters must have unobstructed space of at least 60 square feet per person without a cot and 110 square feet per person with a cot. Other details of space requirements can be shared with any interested person or organization.

If you or your organization is interested in providing a hurricane shelter space for the 2021 Atlantic Hurricane season, please call the DHS Commissioner's office at:

- (340) 718-2980 - St. Croix
- (340) 774-0930 - St. Thomas/St. John.

You may also share your contact information with VITEMA at (340) 774-2244.

For general information, please visit the Department of Human Services website, www.dhs.gov.vi or Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/usvidhs>).

*For more information on Covid19, the new strain of coronavirus, please visit the USVI Department of Health's website, www.doh.vi.gov/coronavirus or text COVID19USVI to 888777.
#COVID19USVI*

The COVID-19 Vaccination Appointment Hotline is now open from 8:30 am until 3:00 pm Monday thru Friday. Operators are available in both English and Spanish. For additional information, including an updated eligibility list as well as vaccine information, call (340)777-8227 or visit VITEMA.Vi.Gov.

The Department of Human Services is committed to providing social services that will enhance the quality of life for individuals and families with diverse needs; and work toward our vision to empower individuals and families towards self-sufficiency through a seamless delivery system.

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