



After the Storms

St. Croix Foundation for Community Development: Rebuilding Communities and Nurturing Resiliency

Impact Report: September 2017- April 2018



A message from our Director

In the fall of 2017, the US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Florida Keys were devastated by an unprecedented series of natural disasters. The catastrophic force of two back-to-back Category 5 Super-Storms in ten days on the U.S. Virgin Islands in particular not only raised awareness of the implications of a potential new normal in weather patterns, but more directly on the sustainability of America's isolated, underserved Caribbean Communities.

With the impact of Hurricane Irma on St. Thomas and St. John and Hurricane Maria on Puerto Rico taking center stage, the devastation wrought by Maria's Cat 5 winds on St. Croix, the poorest island in the US Caribbean, has been largely overlooked! With ***the majority of St. Croix still without electricity, 8 of 13 public schools condemned, and the island's only community hospital scheduled to be decommissioned***, building philanthropic capacity to support a community in crisis is an imperative. As is often the case in the aftermath of natural disasters, Hurricanes Irma and Maria exacerbated existing social and economic disparities. The nonprofit sector which strives to meet the needs of those most disenfranchised in our community is needed now more than ever.

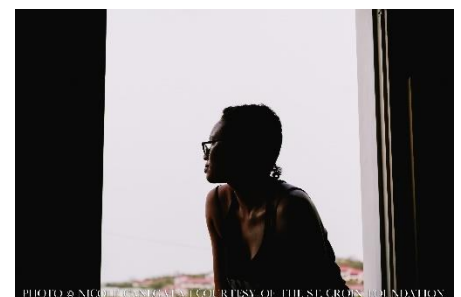
For over 27 years, St. Croix Foundation for Community Development (a place-based 501(c)3), has served as an operating foundation catalyzing strategic philanthropic investments within the U.S. Virgin Islands. By advancing a model of holistic community development as the pathway to economic prosperity, self-sufficiency and sustainability, the Foundation is best positioned to support a targeted hurricane relief, recovery, and restoration strategy for St. Croix and the Territory. Established in 1990 in the wake of Hurricane Hugo, (a Category 4 hurricane that decimated the island of St. Croix in 1989), St. Croix Foundation has, since its inception, been a conduit of over \$37 million private and public-sector dollars invested into the U.S. Virgin Islands.

As a community-centric foundation serving disproportionately poor, underserved American residents, St. Croix Foundation is leading our community through recovery, grounded by our commitment to social equity and resiliency. We fundamentally believe that despite the dire circumstances created by the storm, our Territory has been afforded an opportunity to build a national model of self-sufficient and sustainable community (re)development.

Through our Caribbean Assistance and Relief Effort (CARE) Project, St. Croix Foundation is seeking to cultivate national philanthropic partnerships to support our comprehensive hurricane recovery and resiliency strategy. Today, we are leaning on our global philanthropic community to support us as we support our island.

Warm regards,

Deanna James, Executive Director



The CARE Fund: (Caribbean Assistance & Recovery Effort) Resiliency in Action!



Since just days after Hurricane Maria's devastating landfall on St. Croix, St. Croix Foundation has been on the ground leveraging partnerships and philanthropic resources to help our island community recover. In the weeks and months immediately following the disaster, the Foundation focused on coordinating and facilitating front-line relief efforts that supported residents and the crucial nonprofit organizations who serve them. Through collaboration designed to maximize the impact of limited resources, the Foundation's front-line relief efforts focused on assessing and meeting critical, sometimes life-saving, needs.

The First 100 Days

The Foundation's early hurricane relief efforts included the launch of our most immediate strategies including **facilitating the shipment and distribution of hundreds of thousands of pounds of food, water, clothing, baby supplies and medical supplies and sponsoring the shipment and security of over 117,847 pounds of critical relief supplies.** At right, Haley Cutler, the Foundation's Disaster Recovery Coordinator, celebrates supplies with some of our youngest. Thanks to early contributions to the CARE Fund from generous supporters near and far, the Foundation's work during the immediate relief stage continued through the first 100 days after the disaster and included:



Needs Assessment Survey

St. Croix Foundation completed our Needs Assessment Survey with 1,046 individuals and households impacted by the disaster. **As a product of this initiative, we processed 353 referrals for 273 individuals resulting in eligible residents becoming registered for public assistance,** receiving critical supplies for health and wellbeing including replacements for durable medical equipment that had been damaged by the storm, food, household and baby supplies, tarps, solar lights and more. The data will also more broadly inform the community-wide dialogue about next steps in the recovery process.



Residents in some of the most heavily impacted neighborhoods receive critical assistance through our Unmet Needs Survey.

Life-Saving & Changing Equipment

Thanks to a partnership spearheaded by Board Chair Willard John, St. Croix Foundation was able to distribute **17 electric generators, collectively worth over \$10,000, for families still living without power more than 90 days after the storm.** The recipients of generators distributed by the Foundation were individuals with medical conditions that are exacerbated by the absence of electricity or which require electricity to manage—such as those on oxygen or those whom need electricity to operate a hospital bed. Other recipients included families with low-incomes and other conditions necessitating electricity for the welfare of young children and seniors.



Strategic Grantmaking

In the fall of 2017, St. Croix Foundation provided a grant to the St. Croix Farmers in Action's Crucian Coconut Festival to serve as a positive, educational community gathering for all ages where local food security and resiliency could be embraced and local culture celebrated in the aftermath of the disaster. **FEMA was able to leverage this opportunity to share information with residents about rebuilding stronger homes and, in cooperation with the University of the Virgin Islands, three educational workshops focused on agricultural sustainability were held** ranging from the nutritional value of the coconut to intercropping using the coconut palm; and three cooking demonstrations introduced how the coconut can be used in meals, drinks and desserts. **In total, the Coconut Cup Festival reached over 1300 participants.**



Nonprofit Supports

Stabilizing nonprofit organizations on St. Croix that provide critical social and cultural services to individuals, families, and our community quickly became one of the most important functions for the Foundation. Thanks to your early gift to the CARE Fund, the Foundation **provided office space, free of charge, to nonprofit organizations displaced by Hurricane Maria including the Boys and Girls Club and the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Council.** This contribution of free rent, worth \$3,375 over four and a half months, enabled these crucial providers to continue serving our community at a critical time in the relief and recovery process.

In addition, St. Croix Foundation fulfilled its fundamental role as a convener and brought together our nonprofit and public sector partners including FEMA, Voluntary Agencies Active in Disaster (VOAD), Red Cross, Danish Emergency Management Agency, and many others to facilitate collaborative community-wide relief efforts.

Long Term Recovery and Resiliency

At the St. Croix Foundation, we understand that recovering from a catastrophic natural disaster is a marathon, not a sprint. We have our sleeves rolled up for the long road ahead and are now shifting our focus to strategies centered on long term recovery and resiliency. The Foundation's current long-term recovery work, supported by the CARE Fund, includes holistic programming as follows:

Broadening Funding Opportunities for Nonprofits

Outside of the CARE Grant, St. Croix Foundation is busy connecting our nonprofit partners with real resources that will help restore operations and even expand services. **In the past two months, the Foundation has secured \$272,000 in grant funding from philanthropic partners for nonprofit organizations** on St. Croix including Lutheran Social Services, Women's Coalition of St. Croix, Red Cross, St. Croix Montessori, and Boys and Girls Club.



St. Croix Montessori School is a very special community school that does not turn away children (60% are on scholarship). St. Croix Foundation helped them to raise over \$25,000 to conduct repairs needed to reopen and even expand their services with an interactive playground. Serving some of our most vulnerable children, St. Croix Montessori was able to reopen their school before our local public schools and serves as a model of resiliency.

The CARE Grant

In February of 2018, St. Croix Foundation launched the CARE Grant, that to date has provided over \$275,000 in strategic grants to St. Croix based nonprofit organizations and charitable initiatives that offer programs and direct services targeting the most vulnerable and underserved populations affected by Hurricanes Irma and Maria. The Foundation awarded grants for projects that supported nonprofit organizations as they strive to return their operations to pre-hurricane conditions. Funding was available for projects in the following categories: (1) programs/services for hurricane survivors, (2) capacity building to allow expansion of existing services, and (3) reconstruction of facilities necessary for conducting programs that directly relate to the needs of hurricane victims or recovery. A full report about CARE Grantmaking prepared by SCF Grant Manager is included separately.

Nonprofit Disaster Recovery and Capacity Survey

As a follow up to the initial nonprofit damages assessment, St. Croix Foundation launched a second survey called the *Nonprofit Disaster Recovery and Capacity Assessment* to assess the long-term impacts of Hurricanes Irma and Maria on St. Croix's vital nonprofit sector. The data gathered will assist with case-making to secure additional philanthropic resources as well as inform strategic investments and grants geared towards ensuring that nonprofit organizations are able to rise to the level of increased demand and need in our community post-disaster.

St. Croix Long-Term Recovery Group

St. Croix Foundation is now the fiscal sponsor and close partner of the St. Croix Long-Term Recovery Group, a coalition of civic, nonprofit, and faith-based organizations who will leverage volunteers and philanthropic resources to conduct disaster case management, provide resources to address critical unmet needs experienced by individuals after all public assistance has been exhausted, and help rebuild people's homes who will otherwise slip through the cracks. This critical group's sound financial management and ability to apply for grants under the Foundation's nonprofit umbrella will be invaluable to long term rebuilding efforts and allows the Foundation to remain on-the-ground and collect data to identify and help address emerging needs.

Equity and Resiliency: Moving Forward

Having sought for many years to bring greater awareness to the needs and vulnerabilities of the U.S. Caribbean, the hurricanes, while devastating, have opened windows of opportunities and new partnerships that were seemingly inaccessible to us prior. Today, as we move into the intermediate and long-term phases of our hurricane recovery efforts we are focusing attention and resources on equity and sustainability and data. St. Croix Foundation continues to be a guiding and grounding voice in meetings with territorial, federal, and other recovery partners, constantly beating the drum for equity and sustainability.



THE NONPROFIT CONSORTIUM

September 2017 - December 2017 Update

ST. CROIX NONPROFITS REBUILD AFTER THE STORMS Utilizing Collaboration as a Driver for Holistic Recovery in the U.S. Virgin Islands

Three months after two category five hurricanes hit the Virgin Islands, the demand for services has expanded and our nonprofits have fewer resources than ever before. Today, through the Nonprofit Consortium and with your support, St. Croix Foundation is actively convening organizations and connecting them to critical resources.

The Consortium's first action item was to **survey over 30 nonprofit organizations to assess damages and needs**, providing information that identifies where and how support can help organizations for the greatest impact. Armed with data, the Foundation's Nonprofit Consortium has accomplished the following to date:

1. **Established a partnership with the Danish Emergency Management Agency (DEMA)**, allowing us to make strategic project referrals that led to a number of nonprofit organizations receiving assistance as part of DEMA's mission. Overall, DEMA completed 24 projects on St. Croix, such as the following notable nonprofit emergency repair projects (to name just a few):

- Installing blue tarpaulin roofs at the Boys and Girls Club of The Virgin Islands Christiansted Clubhouse (at right) and at the Whim Greathouse and Museum;
- Repairing the roof at the Women's Coalition of St. Croix's shelter among other restoration efforts;
- Conducting major flood mitigation and electrical repairs to the Queen Louise Home for Children of Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands.



2. **Served as the steward of a \$25,000 donation of tools and supplies from the Danish Emergency Management Agency** for voluntary organizations to use in support of rebuilding missions; **secured funding for storage and security of the tools and supplies through ReV!ve**, a grassroots, charitable disaster relief movement.

3. **Approved the Long-Term Recovery Group as a fiscal sponsored project (free of charge)**, allowing them to operate and fundraise under the Foundation's nonprofit umbrella.



4. Assisted in raising \$10,000 in funding for the repairs to the St. Croix Montessori School which resumed classes over a month before public schools on St. Croix.

Through the Consortium, the Foundation is also currently working to broaden funding opportunities and partnerships for all Virgin Islands nonprofits. Most recently, the Foundation and the Southern Partners Fund to allow nonprofits in the Virgin Islands to be eligible for hurricane recovery grants from the Fund.

And today, the Foundation is excited to report that the Nonprofit Consortium is finalizing plans and securing funding to hold the Second Annual St. Croix Nonprofits Funders Retreat, in which the Foundation and members of the Nonprofit Consortium introduce the Virgin Islands to national partners and make a case for future philanthropic investments in the Territory.



Nonprofits say thank you to the Danish Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) for rebuilding support.



THE NONPROFIT CONSORTIUM

January 2018 – April 2018 Update

MAKING THE CASE FOR CIVIC LEADERSHIP

As a nimble and innovative, place-based community foundation committed to equity, resilience, and collaboration (even before the storm), St. Croix Foundation is approaching disaster recovery differently! Having launched our Nonprofit Consortium (NPC) in September of 2016, St. Croix Foundation was able to begin convening nonprofit partners immediately after Hurricanes Irma and Maria to leverage our collective resources and meet the needs of the most vulnerable and underserved residents impacted by the storms.

Today, by supporting and convening St. Croix nonprofit organizations through our NPC, we are developing comprehensive and progressive sector-wide cases for the recovery and transformation of our island community. Working intimately with local nonprofits who span every sector of a healthy society (from Health and Human Welfare to Arts and Culture), we are also clarifying and holding up a vision of sustainable, holistic rebuilding.



After the Storm: St. Croix Foundation for Community Development is doing Disaster Recovery Differently! Grounded in our commitment to social equity and holistic community development, we are nurturing resiliency in the Virgin Islands through strategic investments in our Nonprofit Sector.

With many critical government systems on the verge of collapse before the storms, and completely broken afterwards, our Consortium of nonprofits has had to rely heavily on each other to restore their operations while also filling essential service gaps. In the six months since Hurricane Maria, our Consortium has begun to build a strategic framework and a collective vision for developing new approaches to stabilizing and strengthening St. Croix's nonprofit sector in order to successfully navigate the social and economic devastation of this and future disasters.

As we chart a radical new course to recovery for our community, we have drawn the conclusion that in small, isolated communities with unstable, dysfunctional governmental systems, directing investments to the civic sector is the most viable pathway to ensuring social justice, equity, and sustainable recovery outcomes. The overarching goal is to create redundant safety nets for the most vulnerable and underserved residents as infrastructure and systems are rebuilt.

CIVIC LEADERSHIP AT WORK

Undoubtedly, since September of 2017, St. Croix Foundation's Nonprofit Consortium has been incredibly busy and essential. Thanks to generous local and global partners, today the work of the Nonprofit Consortium is presenting a profound case for the critical importance of grounding our Territory's recovery efforts in the civic sector. The following demonstrates major accomplishments, made in just six short months, through our Nonprofit Consortium:

Philanthropic Convening

In support of our NPC partners and to relieve local donors (and our beleaguered government) from the responsibility of supporting the civic sector, in February of 2017, St. Croix Foundation convened seven national philanthropic executives including the Southeastern Council of Foundations, the Association of Black Foundation Executives (ABFE), the Minnesota Council of Foundations, the Southern Education Fund and Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation (pictured at right) along with local thought leaders. Our short-term goal? To introduce more national philanthropic leaders to the Territory and open historically inaccessible funding streams for our entire civic community. Because of that convening, immediately after the September 2017 hurricanes, St. Croix had seven fierce champions on the mainland who knew St. Croix Foundation, knew our nonprofit landscape, and knew the passion and potential of our civic leaders to meet the immediate needs of the most vulnerable residents in our devastated community. *Our fundamental belief is that, in the absence of healthy governmental systems, it is philanthropy's role (and obligation) to be responsive and strategic in supporting the civic sector so that they may effectively fill critical service gaps!*



During the 2017 Philanthropic Retreat, Sonia Dow, Executive Director of the St. Croix Landmarks Society, provided cultural context for the unique resilience and shared history of St. Croix's colonial past with 7 African American Senior Philanthropic Executives.

Getting St. Croix on the Map

As yet another goal of the Consortium when launched a year and a half ago, St. Croix Foundation has sought to expand opportunities to get the Territory and U.S. Caribbean 'on the map' and recognized as a relevant and legitimate funding priority for national and global funders. An ongoing challenge, many national foundations and membership organizations have historically considered the U.S. Caribbean either international or *irrelevant*. In fact, before the creation of the Consortium, St. Croix Foundation was notified by three of the largest national foundations that the Territory was simply not on their radar and that this probably wouldn't change any time soon. Hurricane Maria overturned that position and we are committed to leveraging this new opportunity and ensuring that our nonprofits benefit from the shift.

Today, after countless hours of advocacy, networking, and partnership building, and as a direct result of our 2017 Philanthropy Retreat, **on March 6, 2018, it was officially announced that St. Croix Foundation had successfully made the case for inclusion and membership in the Southeastern Council of Foundations (SECF),** which boasts a network of over 300 foundations serving the U.S. southeast. **SCF was also awarded a major grant from W.K. Kellogg Foundation in March of this year to support St. Croix nonprofit recovery efforts.** That grant and the SECF membership represent 'firsts' for the U.S. Virgin Islands and notable achievements for the St. Croix Foundation and our Nonprofit Consortium.

.....new members of the **SECF family**.....

The following organizations have joined or reconnected with SECF since our previous issue. Look forward to seeing them at our events and programs – and give them a warm welcome!

The **Alamance Community Foundation**, which recently spun off from The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, is based in Burlington, North Carolina. Gavin Sands Stevens is the executive director.

The **Asian Foundation** has reconnected with SECF. The independent foundation, based in Knoxville, Tennessee, focuses its grantmaking on arts & culture, community & economic development, education, the environment and health. Andrea Bailey Cox is executive director.

The **Bobbie Bailey Foundation** is an independent foundation based in Atlanta, focused on arts & culture, human services and education. Its chairman is Audrey Morgan.

The **Fred B. and Ruth B. Zigler Foundation**, a family foundation based in Jennings, Louisiana, has reconnected with SECF.

The **Greater Pinebluff Community Foundation**, based in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, has reconnected with SECF. Mike Dixon is the executive director.

The **John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation**, based in Chicago, is expanding its work in the Southeast. The independent foundation's priorities in the region include climate solutions and housing.

Methodist Health System Foundation is a health legacy funder based in Slidell, Louisiana, dedicated to the support, development and management of health-related programs and services for the benefit of the citizens of East New Orleans and beyond. Wendy Beron is the president & CEO.

The **St. Croix Foundation for Community Development** is the first SECF member from outside the mainland U.S. Located in Christ Church on Saint Croix, part of the U.S. Virgin Islands, the community foundation serves as both a strategic grantmaker and a direct services provider. Deanna James is the executive director.

The **Zalik Foundation** is a family foundation based in Sandy Springs, Georgia, focused on arts & culture, community & economic development, education, the environment and health. Amanda Abrams is the executive director.

Hosting the Second Nonprofit Philanthropy Retreat

Following those major accomplishments, the Foundation hosted our 2nd annual philanthropic retreat with six national foundation executives, including representatives from the Council on Foundations, the Center for Disaster Philanthropy, Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation and the philanthropic arm of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Our staunch ABFE and SECF partners, from our 1st retreat in 2017, returned to solidify their support for and commitment to St. Croix and our nonprofit sector. The outcome of this most recent convening is that the Foundation and one of our Consortium partners have been invited to present at two national conferences, further increasing our exposure to a broader national philanthropic network on behalf of all nonprofits in the Territory. With dwindling local donor pools and contracted local government funding, these achievements present one of the most significant philanthropic efforts in the USVI, which is building measurable capacity for our nonprofit community at a time when it is most needed!



St. Croix Foundation convened over 30 nonprofit leaders during our 2018 Nonprofit Consortium Philanthropy Retreat from March 9th – 11th, 2018 where nonprofits presented sector-specific positioning and vision statements for the future of St. Croix. With Education, the Environs, Health & Human Services, and Arts & Culture organizations represented, nonprofits made progressive ‘cases’ to senior philanthropic executives.

A Cohesive Vision for St. Croix

At our recent Nonprofit Consortium Philanthropic Retreat, the Foundation also brought together over 30 organizations that had previously worked on positioning statements that serve to ground the Consortium in making a collaborative ‘case’ around equity, sustainability, *people-power*, and policy. In partnership with their peer organizations, nonprofits presented positioning statements and visions for the future, laying the groundwork for a unified, strategic recovery plan that includes the following:

The Environmental Sector: A Matter of Wealth

The Environmental Sector supports the protection, conservation, mitigation, and restoration of our island’s natural resources (including historic, built environments); helping to build environmental and, in turn, community resilience, while reconnecting our community with nature.

Arts & Cultural Heritage Sector: The Conduit for Community Development

The Arts and Culture Sector serves as artistic and culture bearers for St. Croix by documenting our culture, caretaking our cultural archives, and creating the social fabric that feeds the young and old. Our sector bridges societal gaps through connecting and convening diverse populations as a vehicle for public health, a powerful economic force, and the grounding factor of a healthy St. Croix.

Health & Human Services Sector: Revolutionaries for Social Justice

In the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma & Maria, social inequities on St. Croix have been exacerbated by the reduction of resources and lack of accessibility to relief. The Health and Human Services Sector empowers our community by advocating for justice, equality and well-being. We serve as champions for underserved and unserved populations by transforming social norms, embracing collaboration, promoting education and being an example of compassion, love and healing.

Youth & Education Sector: Change Agents

Although the Education Nonprofit Sector has faced fiscal, leadership, and infrastructure challenges, and our families have experienced the devastation of two Category 5 hurricanes, we are responding by providing collaborative, adaptive strategies and embracing opportunities to create new paradigms for the development and education of all of our children.

Building Trust for Collaboration and Collective Impact

Overall, the Nonprofit Consortium is creating a safe space for our nonprofits to engage in transformative dialogue and strategic planning. With budget cuts, including a recent announcement that the local government intended to cut funding allotments for nonprofits in the Human Services Sector - a critical sector facing greater demands - *the opportunity that our Nonprofit Consortium has before it to demonstrate a new framework for disaster recovery is profound.* With growing appreciation for the ingenuity and courage intrinsic to our sector, the Consortium is amassing people-power, exemplified by the collective advocacy and organizing power that led to the reversal of the government's decision to cut critical funding. In as much as the Foundation is supporting the Consortium, this effort is also helping the Foundation reframe our own narrative about this cadre of *community warriors* who are shepherding social transformation amid crisis. Because here's our reality: our civic partners not only represent a steadying force in our community, but they are also consistently filling critical service gaps while moving the needle forward on equity and social justice issues for the most vulnerable and underserved residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands.



Acknowledging the weight of their work, nonprofit leaders shared a quiet moment of reflection during our most recent Philanthropy Retreat to take a deep breath, recharge their spirits and steel their resolve to chart a radical and unified new course for recovery, grounded in civic leadership, equity, social justice, and a love for St. Croix. St. Croix Foundation is clearing the path ahead of them!

DATA DRIVERS: Nurturing Resilience, Supporting Nonprofits

As needs increase and resources become scarcer, in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, leveraging the strengths and staying power of the civic sector through the St. Croix Foundation's Nonprofit Consortium has become more critical than ever before. Consider the following realities even six months after the storms:

1. Eight of thirteen public schools on St. Croix are condemned, requiring every single public-school student and teacher to endure grueling double sessions. Public school students now receive only 4 hours of instruction every day after having lost almost 3 months of school directly after the hurricanes. Because of reduced time in school, our nonprofit sector is filling service voids, providing before *and* after school programming, bussing students, and providing safe spaces for children and families.
2. 60% of all tarped 'blue-roofs' in the four islands of the Virgin Islands are on St. Croix, the poorest of all the islands even before the hurricane. The multiplier effect of this will be felt in every sector and will require that our Long-Term Recovery Group, a sponsored project of the Foundation, combine its efforts with our nonprofit organizations to achieve true resiliency.



Today, the Caribbean Centers for Boys & Girls is providing public school students academic and extra-curricular programming as well as bussing students to and from school despite losing the roof on their main facility.

Through our CARE Fund, St. Croix Foundation is awarding strategic grants to our Nonprofit Consortium to enable them to provide critical social services to the most vulnerable residents in the Territory. With significantly fewer resources available to support their work, SCF is awarding grants to organizations like the Boys & Girls Club that lost their roof yet continues to support over 170 students daily and the St. Croix Montessori School that opened their doors to public school students at no charge immediately after the storm. Through our grantmaking, SCF also seeks to build the operational capacity of local nonprofit organizations serving children and families back to pre-hurricane status and to assist them in expanding programmatic services to meet post-hurricane needs.

For Every Challenge there is an Opportunity.

During this recovery period, our opportunity lies in the strength, innovation and passion of the nonprofits on St. Croix. To help build operational capacity, St. Croix Foundation is committed to providing the Nonprofit Consortium with professional development and organizational development training as well as collaboration skill-building. SCF will also help to develop and improve the financial and operational sustainability of nonprofit grantees by providing training on how to utilize data gathered in the reporting process for their own outreach and case-building.

St. Croix's nonprofits have illuminated this one fact: everything really is connected to everything! When seemingly disparate organizations sit at one table and gain understanding of each other's work and vision, the intersections where missions and visions meet is unearthed, and bridges are built. We seek to continue directing resources at those joints to support collective impact and sustainability. As we move into the next phase of our Nonprofit Consortium, St. Croix Foundation seeks to support operational needs and build sector-wide capacity by building a wider network of national partners and by leveraging philanthropic resources for deeper impact.

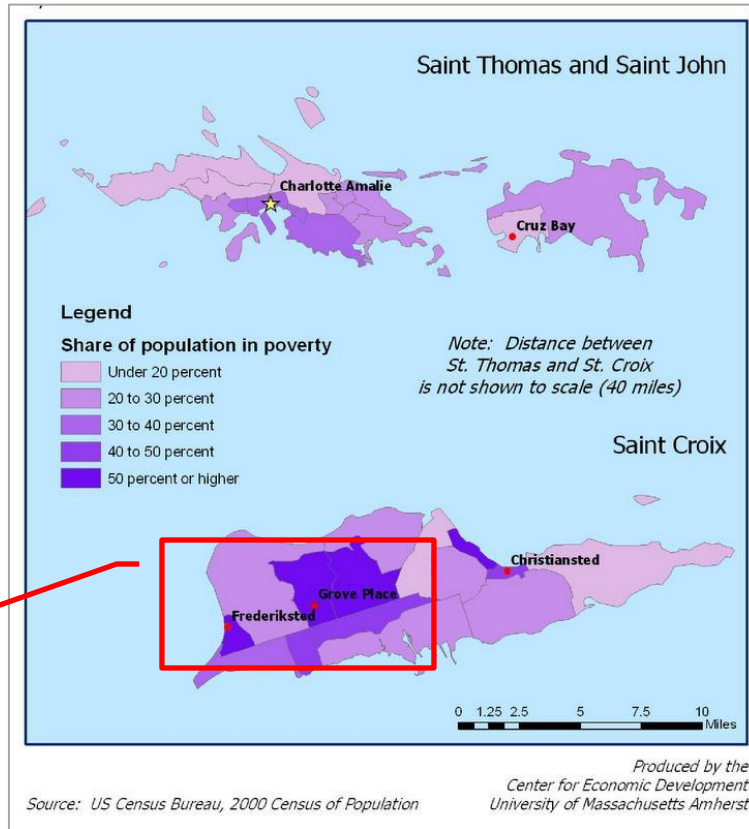
We are encouraged to see that our investments are already paying off as we can now report that we currently have personal champions who know St. Croix, who know the passion and potential of our civic leaders, and who are working to help us open more doors of opportunities for St. Croix. We hope you'll join us in creating a model for transformational, resilient leadership.

***For more information on how you can support the
St. Croix Foundation's CARE Fund and Nonprofit Consortium,
please contact our Executive Director, Deanna James, today at 340.773.9898.***



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Our Community – Our Rationale



Hurricane Maria's
destructive path

Our Mission

St. Croix Foundation's mission is to encourage greater philanthropic activity, to marshal resources, and to act as a catalyst to benefit the people of St. Croix and the Virgin Islands.

Our Vision

The St. Croix Foundation will encourage greater philanthropic activity through increasing the public's awareness of current and emerging needs in our community. This will be accomplished by periodically assessing our community's philanthropic needs and by focusing and prioritizing the use of the Foundation's resources to best meet those needs. The Foundation will publish reports on its activities to be distributed throughout the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

The St. Croix Foundation will marshal resources by providing an accessible vehicle for donors of all abilities to use and by presenting the Foundation, both locally and nationally, as a worthwhile recipient of monetary, in-kind, and volunteer support. The Board of Directors will provide stewardship of the highest caliber to the resources entrusted to its governance and actively seek an endowment to benefit the people of St. Croix. Professional staff will be employed to support the Board's efforts and to provide quality, cost-effective service to interested donors and their advisors.

The St. Croix Foundation will act as a catalyst through exerting and promoting leadership and advocating for positive change. The Board will strengthen our community's capacity to act through providing exemplary grants to local nonprofit organizations. The Foundation will conduct all of its activities to the highest ethical standards and seek to maximize our community's scarce resources.

