

## What does a resilient community look like?

Resilient communities share some of the following characteristics:

- Community members are physically and mentally well
- People can access health care, healthy foods and a range of social and economic services they need.
- Residents are self-sufficient and can take care of each other during tough times.
- Residents and organizations are engaged in the community and connected to each other.
- The community is able to use existing resources to become stronger in the face of threats and risks.
- The community is able to learn from prior events to better deal with future emergencies and disaster better.

## What are the community resilience levers?

There are several areas that together contribute to and increase a community's capacity to be resilient. These areas or levers of community resilience form the building blocks that strengthen resilience. With these levers, communities can improve their ability to withstand and recover from emergencies and their overall capacity to improve community resilience.

## How will it be implemented?

The Ministry of Health and Social Development, through the Public Health Unit will spearhead the Community Resilience initiative as a special project.

The special project is funded through the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and facilitated by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). RAND Corporation, with expertise in community resilience will provide technical support for this project.

## Want to learn more about Community Resilience? Follow us on:



### For more information:

Ministry of Health and Social Development  
Tel: 1(284) 468-4936 or 468-2275  
[www.bvi.gov.vg](http://www.bvi.gov.vg)



Pan American  
Health  
Organization

Information Credit: RAND Corporation

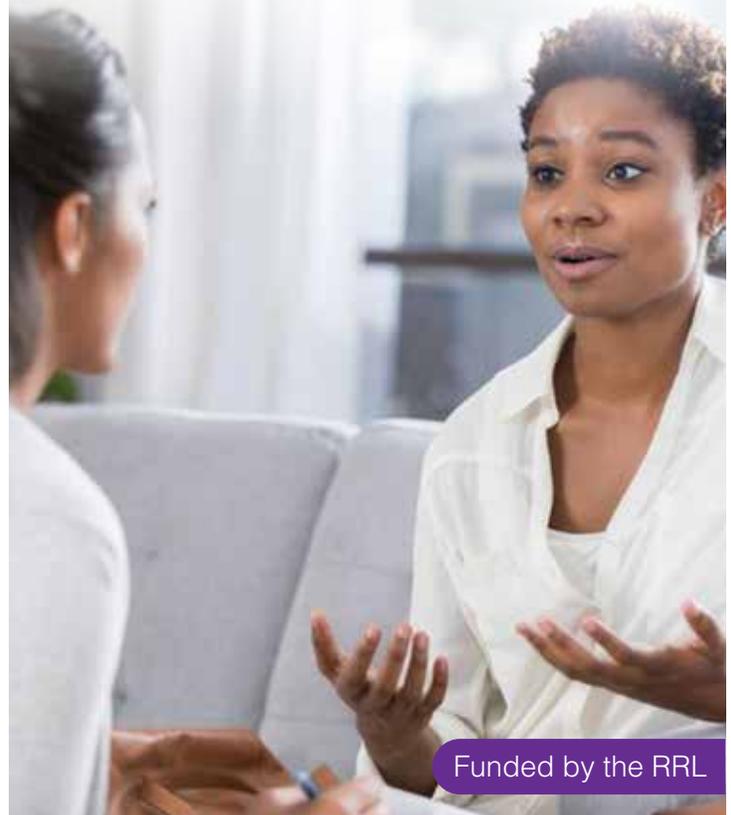
Design and Layout by  
Department of Information and Public Relations



GOVERNMENT OF THE  
VIRGIN ISLANDS  
Ministry of Health  
and Social Development

# THE VIRGIN ISLANDS COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROJECT

“Bounce Back Stronger Together”



Funded by the RRL

## What is Community Resilience?

Community resilience is the capacity of a community to prepare for, respond to and recover from adverse events.

Community resilience uses community engagement for planning, preparedness and response activities. It also promotes the inclusion of populations that may need additional support. Finally, community resilience emphasises community members, community based organisations, and faith-based organisations working together with public health, first responders and other government agencies to prepare, respond and recover.

### Objectives

1. To train local agencies and community leaders in areas related to the disaster preparedness and response cycle and enhance collaboration at the community level in community resilience and community development using health in all policies principles.
2. To help communities to develop community resilience action plans for which they will seek funding to implement.
3. To training a cadre of peer supporter in non-clinical psychosocial support in the community.
4. To develop and implement a community education campaign to better prepare the community to “Bounce Back Stronger Together”.

#### Traditional Disaster Preparedness

VS

#### Community Resilience Approach

*Individual households and their readiness to respond to emergencies*

Community members working together to respond to and recover from emergencies

*Disaster-specific functions (eg. Earthquake building codes, training staff to provide first aid)*

Merging of other community efforts that build social, economic, and health well-being

*Government's response in the first few days and weeks after a disaster*

Diverse network of government and nongovernmental organizations in preparing for responding to and recovering from disaster

*Emergency plans and supplies only*

Collaboration and engagement and nongovernmental organizations in preparing for responding to and recovering from disaster

*Self-sufficient individuals or households*

Self-sufficient community through neighbor-to-neighbor connections and strong social networks.

### Virgin Islands Communities for Resilience Project implementation

- East End
- Long Look
- Hope Hill/ Belle Vue/ Long Trench
- Brewer's Bay
- Cane Garden Bay
- Carrot Bay
- West End/ Frenchman's
- Purcell Estate
- Huntums Ghut

TORTOLA

