

CARIBBEAN EXPLORATORY
RESEARCH CENTER

**UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS** 

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## PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT BIRTH THROUGH FIVE (PDG B-5)



#### Caribbean Exploratory Research Center

WHO? A team of researchers from the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) is leading the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) for the US Virgin Islands.

WHAT? The USVI's PDG B-5 Project, Road to Success: Developing an early child care and education mixed delivery system for the B-5 population in the USVI, is funded by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). Working with partners from key agencies the Departments of Education and Health; the two FQHCs in the Territory; Lutheran Social Services of the USVI, and UVI's Schools of Education and Nursing, and the State Advisory Council, the research team will complete several key activities, to include a Needs Assessment of the availability and quality of USVI B-5 programs and the development of a Strategic Plan.

WHEN? The project is funded for one year — December 31, 2018—December 30, 2019. Work commenced in January 2019.

WHERE? The PDG B-5 Research Team is based at UVI. The work of the PDG B-5 core team, partners, and SAC will take place in both the St. Croix and St. Thomas-St. John districts.

WHY? The PDG B-5 project is intended to strengthen the ECE mixed-delivery system in the USVI; improve the quality of care; foster collaboration and partnerships among ECE providers; maximize available, high quality ECE options for low-income and disadvantaged families; and maximize parental choice among ECE programs and providers in the USVI.

How? The research team will work with a core team from the VI Department of Human Services, representatives of key partner agencies, and members of the USVI's State Advisory Council to: complete a needs assessment; develop a strategic plan; provide information to maximize parental choice and knowledge about the USVI's early childhood care and education programs (ECE); share best practices among ECE providers; and support the improvement of the USVI's ECE programs.