

Press Release: September 1, 2009

Subject: Kids First! Grants

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Kids First Supports Early Learning at Gifft Hill School

Kids First!, a VI non-profit dedicated to supporting education on St. John announced today that \$25,000 of financial aid enabling 10 students to attend the Gifft Hill School early learning program has been awarded. In addition, Kids First! has funded an additional \$5,000 to purchase teaching aids to enhance the educational experience for Gifft Hill pre-school children.

Commenting on these grants, Bruce Clafin, President of Kids First! said “Success in school and beyond is enhanced by pre-school programs, starting at the youngest ages. Because VI public education does not begin until age 5, private schools often must fill this need. However, the cost of attending a quality pre-school program is often prohibitive. That is why Kids First! is pleased to provide financial support so that more of our island’s children can take advantage of this important learning opportunity.”

Ben Biddle, Headmaster at Gifft Hill School said, “Financial support from Kids First! has made a difference in ten children’s lives. And the teaching aids that Kids First! have purchased will enhance the experience for all children who attend Gifft Hill’s early learning programs. We are very grateful for their support”.

About Kids First!

Our mission is to support quality education for all the children of St. John in a safe and nurturing environment. Kids First! believes that supporting quality education on St. John is the single most important contribution we can make to keep St. John the special place it is today. By providing a quality education for our children, they will mature into responsible citizens, enjoying the fruits of a productive, happy life while providing the leadership we need for the future.