



**Press Contact:**

Ryan Nugent  
Director of Communications  
Ryan.nugent@dhs.vi.gov  
Phone: (340) 725-4924

## PRESS RELEASE

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### DHS ANNOUNCES LIMITED HOLIDAY VISITATION AT HERBERT GRIGG AND QUEEN LOUISE HOMES FOR THE AGED

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS – The Virgin Islands Department of Human Services Division of Senior Citizens Affairs announced Friday that from now until January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, there will be limited in-person visitation with the senior residents for the holidays at the Herbert Grigg Home for the Aged on St. Croix and the Queen Louise Home for the Aged on St. Thomas .

Visitation will occur seven days a week, from 1pm–4pm, by appointment only. Appointment times will range from half an hour to one hour with each resident. Visitors will be required to present a negative COVID test, from a certified laboratory or clinic, within 72-hours of their appointment to the nurse in charge prior to entering the Homes. Both Homes for the Aged are currently maintaining their indoor mask only policies.

The Department of Human Services, Division of Senior Citizens Affairs, has followed all protocols and guidance of the V.I. Department of Health (VIDOH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide the safest environment for our seniors in our Homes for the Aged and senior clients in the community. DHS will continue to monitor the territory's progress during the coming weeks as well as the COVID positivity rates presented by the Department of Health and updates from CDC to amend our policies and procedures on in facility visitation at both Homes for the Aged.

We would like to thank our families, members of the clergy, the community groups, non-profit agencies, and individuals for their support of the Homes for the Aged during the height of the pandemic and thereafter.

**For Visitation Appointments Please Contact**

**The Herbert Grigg Home for the Aged, St. Croix Nurse's Station at 340-778-0708**

**The Queen Louise Home for the Aged, St. Thomas at 340-774-1222**

Commissioner Kimberley Causey-Gomez wishes the residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands a joyous and safe Holiday Season and a prosperous and Happy New Year 2023!

The Department of Human Services (VIDHS) exists to provide social services to members in our community with diverse needs. Please visit the Department of Human Services website, [www.dhs.gov.vi](http://www.dhs.gov.vi) for more information.

The Bryan-Roach Administration is investing in the Territory's people, infrastructure, and future through transparency, stabilizing the economy, restoring trust in the government, and ensuring that recovery projects are completed as quickly as possible. Visit [transparency.vi.gov](http://transparency.vi.gov).

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