



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF **EDUCATION**

Office of Public Relations

1834 Kongens Gade, Charlotte Amalie * St. Thomas * U.S. Virgin Islands 00802-6746

Telephone: 340.774.0100 Ext. 8136 Fax: 340.774.1168

340.773.1095 Ext. 7064 Fax: 340.773.4624

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Contact: Keva D. Muller

Director of Public Relations

(340) 774-0100, Ext. 8136

Keva.muller@vide.vi

www.vide.vi

www.facebook.com/usvi.vide

BCB MAKES DONATION TO EAST END MEDICAL CENTER FOR BREAST CANCER SUPPORT

ST. THOMAS, USVI – The Bertha C. Boschulte Middle School donated \$1,000 to the St. Thomas East End Medical Corporation on Friday, October 25 that was collected through a breast cancer fundraising activity held at the school.

The BCB school family wore pink in support of breast cancer awareness and assembled outside the auditorium to mark the occasion. School Counselor Patricia Adams, who spearheaded the fundraising activity, briefly spoke to students about breast cancer awareness.

“Today, BCB has taken a stand against breast cancer,” she said. “We are going to be helping people here in St. Thomas who need help with their treatments. We are giving a monetary donation to support the cause.”

Adams invited Special Education Teacher Margarita Charles-Smith, a breast cancer survivor, to share her story. Charles-Smith gave an emotional account of her initial diagnosis and the impact it had on her and her family. She encouraged women and girls to do monthly self-exams and mammograms as directed by their doctors.

“You are still young, but you are never too young,” Charles-Smith said. “Breast cancer has no age limit. Take this very, very serious. With early detection and treatment, you can survive.”

Following her account, BCB Assistant Principals Dr. Merlene Jones and Michelle Wilkinson presented Charles-Smith with a card signed by her colleagues showing their support.

Later in the program, Moleto Smith, director of the St. Thomas East End Medical Corporation, announced that this year his organization would host the annual Relay for Life event in place of the America Cancer Society, which has discontinued operations in the Territory. Relay for Life, he said, is scheduled for January, and is a fundraiser to help residents of the Virgin Islands offset breast cancer treatment costs.

“I am proud that you students are donating to a worthy cause,” Smith said. “This donation will go a long way in helping cancer victims.”

BCB’s breast cancer awareness fundraiser was also marked by students decorating classroom bulletin boards and doors.

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