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## PRESS RELEASE

### VIDHS Offices to Close Half-Day for Annual All Hazards Disaster Preparedness and Response Training

*For Immediate Release: July 18, 2024*

**U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS** - The Virgin Islands Department of Human Services (VIDHS) Commissioner Averil George announces that all VIDHS offices across the territory will be closed on Friday, July 19 and Friday, July 26, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. for mandatory annual ESF6 Mass Care and Shelter Operations Trainings. However, all residential facilities and 24/7 emergency services will continue to operate as usual.

VIDHS is responsible for Emergency Support Function (ESF) #6 as part of FEMA and VITEMA's Coordinated Disaster Response. ESF #6 encompasses Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Shelters, and Human Services, requiring VIDHS to oversee the coordination and delivery of these services during a disaster. For more information, please visit the Department of Human Services website at [dhs.gov.vi](https://dhs.gov.vi) or follow us on Facebook at US Virgin Islands Department of Human Services.

The Department of Human Services provides social services to our community members with diverse needs. During times of national uncertainty and hardship, we serve as a safety net, inspiring hope and empowering change through the non-judgmental and quality delivery of essential services and resources.

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](https://transparency.vi.gov).

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