GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

PRESS RELEASE

Tel: (284)468-2730
Official Government Website:
https://gov.vg

Partnership for Peace Programme Successfully Concludes 23rd Cycle

Release Date: 3 July, 2026

The Government of the Virgin Islands confirms the successful conclusion of the 23rd Cycle of the Partnership for Peace (PfP) Programme: A violence intervention initiative designed to support men in building healthier, more respectful, and non-violent relationships with their spouses.

The 23rd Cycle commenced on 5 May 2026 and concluded on 25 June 2026.

This PfP programme is being coordinated and implemented through the Office of Gender Affairs under the Ministry of Health and Social Development and was established in 2009 in collaboration with UN Women and the Magistracy. Participants were referred to the programme by the Court as part of a mandated intervention requirements.

It is a structured intervention that encourages participants to take responsibility for their behaviour, recognize that violence is a choice, and develop the skills needed to foster positive relationships within families and communities. The programme encourages guided reflection, accountability, and structured group discussion.

The 16-session programme was co-facilitated by two trained professionals certified through UN Women's PfP facilitator's training. The Facilitators pointed out that topics such as 'Family History', Domestic Violence and the Law, Religion and Sexuality- STI, HIV prevention stood out for them and had generated very good interaction among participants. Regarding family history, some of the participants shared that they grew up in homes where quarrels were not evident.

One of the co-facilitators underscored that, "the men bonded well with each other and that was a very good indicator".

The completion of the 23rd Cycle of the Partnership for Peace Programme is a critical step for the participants to demonstrate a willingness to build healthier relationships and contribute positively to their family and community life.

Ms. Patricia Hackett, Ministerial Special Adviser on Gender Affairs said, "Over the years, in implementing the PfP, we recognised the courage it takes for participants to confront behaviour patterns and commit to change. The Government remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting intervention programmes and reducing

domestic violence in the Virgin Islands”.

The Government of the Virgin Islands remains committed to violence prevention, intervention, and the strengthening of families and communities through targeted programmes such as the Partnership for Peace.

For Additional Information Contact:

Fitsroy Randall

Information Officer I

Ministry of Health and Social Development

Vorinica's House of Commerce, Long Bush

Tortola, British Virgin Islands

Telephone: (284) 468-4138

E-mail Address: FRandall@gov.vg

Additional Documents or Media

- 20260703_press_release_press_release_pfp_concludes_23rd_cycle.pdf