



Help • Hope • Here

# Family Focus

SUMMER 2011

## SERVE's Family Care Shelter to Expand by 4,000 Square Feet!



We're expanding – by 4,000 square feet! Just two years after our merger with SERVE, we are proud to announce an expansion to the Prince William facility which will increase shelter capacity from 60 to 92 beds, allowing NVFS to reach an additional 250 individuals a year. The expansion will be a signature project for HomeAid in celebration of 10 years of service in Northern Virginia. The project also commemorates 35 years of commitment on the SERVE campus to help shelter and stabilize families in the Greater Prince William region.

NVFS is privileged to have the assistance of HomeAid partnering with K. Hovnanian Homes to be the Builder Captain for this expansion, which means they will contribute their time and talent to overseeing all of the work. Total project costs are estimated to be close to \$1.2 million, much of that being donated through valuable partnerships that K. Hovnanian and HomeAid will leverage. In addition, the Freddie Mac Foundation has

[continued on page 5](#)

## When it All Comes Together For Good: Health Access for Shelter Residents

In April we were able to continue our commitment to improving all aspects of our clients' lives by creating a partnership for a health van to come to SERVE every other week. We immediately knew the program was a success because on its first day it helped to identify a serious illness for one of our youngest clients.

Monica Cruz is a single mother who is pregnant and is staying at the family care shelter with her two-year-old daughter, Kaylie. One day Kaylie, who is usually a ball of energy, was lethargic and coughing, and the staff could sense Monica's concern was growing. The staff asked what was wrong and Monica responded Kaylie had a cough that was

[continued on page 4](#)



Our collaboration with the Greater Prince William Community Health Center's primary health care van caught a serious illness for two-year-old Kaylie.



United Way  
of the National  
Capital Area

#8099



#79645

Don't forget to designate NVFS in your workplace giving pledge this year.

### IN THIS ISSUE

**2011 Road to Independence Gala Review**

>Page 3

**Good Works**

>Page 5

**Family Focus Survey**

>Back Cover

## Upcoming NVFS Events

Contact:

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### NVFS Annual Golf Tournament



**Thursday, August 4**

The 2011 NVFS Golf Tournament will be held on the beautiful 18-hole, par-70, 6,600 yard 1757 course in Dulles Virginia. This year's tournament promises to be a fun and exciting way for members of the community to support all that NVFS does for families and children in need in our area.

Thanks to the generosity of **Wells Fargo Insurance Services**, all proceeds will benefit the programs of NVFS. Please consider sponsoring or attending this exciting event! For complete details, sponsorship and registration, please visit [www.nvfs.org/golf](http://www.nvfs.org/golf).

### Back to School Drive

**Through Monday, August 8**

The Back to School Drive is in full swing and this year we need your support more than ever. Through August 8, NVFS is accepting donations of new school supplies and backpacks, as well as monetary contributions. Last year, we were able to collect more than 2000 backpacks stuffed with grade appropriate school supplies. This year, we expect even more demand for school supplies.

You can help NVFS by making an early monetary donation or organizing a donation drive on our behalf at your company, community organization, or faith group. Nothing can replace the smiles on the faces of our needy children when they are able to start school ready to

learn with a new back pack full of school supplies. For more information on how you can help, please contact Amy Reif or visit [www.nvfs.org/backtoschool](http://www.nvfs.org/backtoschool)

### Fannie Mae Help the Homeless Walkathon

NVFS has once again been selected as a 2011 Beneficiary of the Fannie Mae Help the Homeless Walkathon. The Help the Homeless Program raises funds to help support our homelessness prevention programs. Our goal is to register over 3,000 walkers this year, through the first NVFS Community Walk for the Homeless on September 24 at the Harris Pavilion in Old Town Manassas, a series of children's mini-walks at local schools, and the November 19 Walkathon on the National Mall. We need to raise \$45,000 in youth walker sponsorship fees in order to meet this goal. Please join us at a walk or sponsor youth walkers. We are also seeking corporate partner sponsorships to boost participation on our behalf.

### CARE Awards



**Thursday, November 17, 7:30am**

You don't want to miss out on this important event which celebrates award-winning companies in Northern Virginia!

Over the past 19 years, Northern Virginia Family Service has transformed the landscape of the Northern Virginia employer community through its CARE Awards Program – a pioneer in employer-of-choice recognition programs. The CARE Award, which recognizes companies that integrate family-friendly work policies, is a hallmark of the finest employer community in a competitive job market.

The proceeds from the CARE Awards will support NVFS program. Sponsorship and tickets can be ordered on our secure website at [www.careawards.net](http://www.careawards.net).

We hope to see you there!

For more information, contact Crista Peterson.

As always, we want to acknowledge the generosity of our Principal Partners who contribute financially and also give their time and expertise to ensure that NVFS programs are a success!

«Bank of America «Booz Allen Hamilton «Capital One «Freddie Mac Foundation «Gannett Co., Inc.  
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# NVFS Celebrates Its Most Successful Gala to Date!

On the evening of May 13, the 13th celebration of the NVFS Road to Independence Gala took place at the McLean Hilton in Tysons Corner. With nearly 600 guests in attendance, which included a diverse mix of politicians, business leaders and individual community members, it was the largest NVFS Gala to date. Through sponsorships, donations and ticket sales, over \$373,000 in net revenue was raised to benefit NVFS programs and services. This incredible outpouring of support reveals the unwavering efforts of the Gala Committee, Board members and staff who promote the agency's work to the Northern Virginia community.

At the end of the evening, John "Til" Hazel, Jr. was honored with the 2011 NVFS Legends of Northern Virginia Award for his dedication and leadership in building and strengthening Northern Virginia, making it a better place to live and work. The Agency was equally proud to honor Dr. Alan Merten, President of George Mason University, and his wife, Mrs. Sally Merten, who has a long history of volunteerism in the arts, education and health services, as the 2011 NVFS Community Champions.

NVFS wants to thank each and every sponsor, donor and guest for his or her generosity in supporting our mission to help our clients move toward "the road to independence" and self sufficiency!



NVFS President Mary Agee with NVFS Legend of Northern Virginia "Til" Hazel, Dr. Alan Merten and his wife, Mrs. Sally Merten, the 2011 NVFS Community Champions.

## Thanks to our Sponsors!

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## Health Van Collaboration *(continued from page 1)*

not going away, but she didn't have health insurance so she was hesitant to go to the doctor. A couple hours later, Monica saw the health van and the nurse practitioner agreed to squeeze in Kaylie even though she did not have an appointment.

The nurse practitioner told shelter staff Monica needed to take Kaylie to the emergency room immediately. Shelter staff arranged for transportation to and from the emergency room.

*"A nurse practitioner and a nurse always come with the van. As our referrals grow, we are hoping that we can have this service come to campus every week! It is a full medical office on wheels!"*

*- Gwen Munley  
Program Manager,  
Shelter & Housing Services at SERVE*

When Monica returned to the shelter, she informed the staff Kaylie had pneumonia. Monica had received prescriptions for her daughter, but did not have health insurance so NVFS purchased the prescriptions and taught Monica how to give the medication and Nebulizer treatment to Kaylie. Two days later, Kaylie was back to running around and laughing – cough free!

We are very excited about the health van because it supports our strategic approach to integrating our programs and services at various locations. It was made possible because NVFS is continuing to forge partnerships which allow us to continue to invest and improve lives from a holistic perspective.

The health van visits the campus every other week and can typically take five to six appointments per day. The nurse practitioner and nurse who come with the van are able to provide health screenings, dental screenings, medication reviews, and general wellness checkups. In the future, we hope the health van can come weekly. Thanks to the Greater Prince William Health Center, and their executive director, Frank Principi, for making this service possible.

## Shop, Volunteer or Donate at our Clock Tower Thrift Shops today!



### Shop!

Find great deals on gently used clothing, housewares, sporting goods, dinnerware, books, toys, and more. Conveniently located in Falls Church and Centreville, both locations receive new merchandise daily and provide a source



of revenue for NVFS' vast array of programs.

### Donate!



Looking for a place to donate the results of your spring cleaning? Both of our Clock Tower Thrift Shops are always accepting donations. For complete details, check out [www.nvfs.org/thriftshopdonations](http://www.nvfs.org/thriftshopdonations).

### Volunteer!

Need a cool place to volunteer this summer? Clock Tower Thrift Shops are the perfect place. Come as a group or an individual! Volunteer opportunities are also available nights and weekends.



For all the details on our Clock Tower Thrift Shops, please visit [www.nvfs.org/thriftshop](http://www.nvfs.org/thriftshop)



## SERVE Expansion *(continued from page 1)*

committed \$400,000 to NVFS for the project. The expansion is further supported through Community Development Block Grants and private donations. Ongoing operations of SERVE are funded through a combination of local government support, individual contributions, foundations and state grants through the VA Dept. of Housing and Community Development.

“This expansion meets a critical need for emergency, short-term housing in the Prince William County area,” said John Monacci, Board President of HomeAid Northern Virginia and Senior VP of Winchester Homes. “Bringing together all of these resources and partners to undertake an expansion of this magnitude is what HomeAid does every single day. It’s all about providing homeless families and individuals with the opportunity to gain stability and to plan for their futures.”

The expansion will include the addition of a family support wing designed for larger families and flexible living space. In addition, adequate computer, mentoring and child services areas will promote appropriate family structured time, providing environments for learning and development. There will also be ample meeting space to support small group interactions and counseling support through life skills training, job development, case management and housing search assistance.

### Join Us at the SERVE Groundbreaking Ceremony! All Are Welcome!

**When:** Tuesday, August 2, 10 am to 1 pm  
**Where:** 10056 Dean Drive, Manassas  
**Who:** NVFS, HomeAid Northern Virginia, K Hovnanian Homes, the Freddie Mac Foundation and other local builders

“Each month SERVE has to turn away an average of 150 people in need of emergency shelter,” said Cheri Villa, Chief Operating Officer for NVFS. “Expanding the shelter is one more opportunity for NVFS to extend the impact of our services, and to provide the support necessary to move more families in Prince William County from homelessness to permanent housing.”

To stay up to date with the latest news on the expansion, please visit [www.nvfs.org/serveexpansion](http://www.nvfs.org/serveexpansion).



## Good Works

*People can reach out in many unique ways to support the communities in which they live. All of these efforts, in one way or another, have a profound effect upon families and children in our region. These are just a few examples of how our supporters have chosen to give back.*

### Brick Oven Lovin’

When NVFS needed lunch for 120 hungry teenagers participating in the 3rd Annual Regional Gang Prevention Soccer Tournament, one simple phone call to Bertucci’s made it happen. In the course of just six weeks, Bertucci’s has provided lunch or dinner for nearly 200 individuals in our IPE and mentoring programs, as well as volunteers for other NVFS programs. Bertucci’s always answers our calls with a generous “how can we help?” We appreciate their commitment to providing NVFS with food throughout the year.

### Family Fun Run for SERVE

The 2nd annual Alvey-Gravely Family Fun Run 5K and 1-mile races, held May 21st at Alvey Elementary School in Haymarket, attracted over 500 young runners and their parents and raised \$5,000 to support the SERVE campus of NVFS. Over 120 children and 25 parent and teacher volunteers participate in Alvey’s after-school running club program, which culminates with this family-friendly race to promote family fitness and encourage families to get active together. Thank you Alvey students, parents and teachers for supporting a great cause – in this race, every kid was a winner!

# Our Supporters Make All the Difference!

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# Family Focus

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**Administrative Offices**  
10455 White Granite Drive  
Suite 100  
Oakton, VA 22124  
703.385.3267

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**Arlington Child Development Center**  
1801 N. George Mason Dr.  
Arlington, VA 22207  
703.358.9170

## Multicultural Human Services

6400 Arlington Blvd.  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
703.533.3302

## SERVE

10056 Dean Drive  
Manassas, VA 20110  
703.368.2979

## OTHER LOCATIONS

Alexandria  
Arlington  
Manassas  
Sterling  
Tysons Corner  
Woodbridge

## Clock Tower Thrift Shops

Centreville  
Falls Church

## We Want Your Feedback!

Please take a moment to fill out and return this 6 question survey, or, better yet - fill it out online. You won't receive any extra mail because of this survey. We're really just trying to deliver a better newsletter!

1. How often do you read the Family Focus? (pick only one)  
 I read every issue     Occasionally  
 Almost never         Never
2. How relevant is the content to you?  
 Very relevant         Somewhat  
 Not Relevant          Unsure
3. What kind of content do you value most?  
 Success stories     Event details  
 Scholarly/Professional articles  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_
4. What other (if any) ways do you regularly hear from NVFS?  
 Email Newsletter     Volunteer Voice  
 Event invites         In the press
5. What changes would you like to see to make this newsletter more valuable?  
 Make it online only  
 Remove donor lists  
 More stories about clients  
 More academic/professional articles  
 Nothing! I love it!



Fill out the survey online at  
[www.nvfs.org/ffsurvey](http://www.nvfs.org/ffsurvey)

Or just scan this code with  
your mobile device.