NVFS Volunteer Voice - July 2018



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School Readiness Goes Beyond the Classroom

Getting children prepared for school often conjures images of backpacks filled with binders, notebooks, pencils and more for students to start to school year off on the right foot. Although back-to-school supplies are essential — and can help reduce the anxiety for low-income children who may not always have these resources available to them — school readiness is more than just having the physical tools to succeed in the classroom.

Learn how NVFS prepares young children for kindergarten and a brighter future.

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Impacting the Community with Deloitte

NVFS was excited to participate again in **Deloitte**'s Impact Day. For more than six years, Deloitte has partnered with NVFS on various projects to support our mission. This year, the company's employees participated in four activities total, including two skills-based projects. Employee volunteers painted NVFS' SERVE Family Shelter, including the children's playroom and study area, and created four types of learning kits for our youngest clients to help them with numbers, colors, textures and small motor control. Deloitte staff also brainstormed solutions to improve the functionality of the clothing closet for NVFS'



Training Futures program and integration of client services support across the SERVE Campus.

NVFS has enjoyed partnering with Deloitte on a number of different projects throughout the years. Deloitte corporate citizenship manager **Allison Solomon** shares the value of corporate engagement to the company and its employees as well.

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Putting the "Fun" in Fundraising



William area, including NVFS' SERVE Campus.

For the company's annual Project Menu initiative, **Lockheed Martin (Manassas location)** employees sorted and stocked donations, including those they brought with them, at the Hunger Resource Center. They also hosted several fundraising events, including a bake sale, and "spirit" nights at Chick-Fil-A and Five Guys.

However, their biggest effort came in an online fundraiser around the location's June 14 bowla-thon at Uptown Alley. Departments competed against each other, raising a total of more than \$16,000 for the Greater Prince

We are so appreciative of **Rachel Beato**, **Rebecca Harber**, **Daniel Busch** and the rest of the Lockheed team for coordinating all of these fun events to benefit the clients that we serve. They were a great team with which to work, and we look forward to next year's Project Menu activities.

Sev1Tech also held a "FUNraiser" — <u>a country western "Boot Scoot"</u> — at Nick's Night Club to benefit NVFS' SERVE Campus. Sev1Tech employees and guests enjoyed two-step dance lessons and karaoke, with a company donation of \$200 per attendee. Employees had fun, and the company donated \$5,000! We appreciate all of the support from Sev1Tech and its employees to give back to the community through its corporate engagement efforts.

Cheers to Our Volunteers: June 2018



From assembling shape robot craft kits to taking inventory of our thrift store operations, volunteers provided critical support to our shelter staff, early childhood development programs, thrift stores and more. Thank you for all of your help!

See how volunteers are engaging with NVFS for ideas on how you can get more involved in your community.

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Join Our Back2School Brigade

When you support NVFS' Back2School Drive, you equip 1,800+ students with the tools to face any school-day challenge. Rather than feeling embarrassed or stressed because they don't have the right supplies, they will feel excited to learn and ready to conquer the classroom.

Even though the start of school seems far away, we want to ensure that the future leaders of tomorrow have the supplies they need when the first bell rings. You can help by planning a supply drive, donating funds for NVFS to purchase supplies, or <u>volunteering</u> to sort and pack school supply donations.



3 Steps to a Successful Drive:

- **Plan:** What are the start/end dates? Who will you ask to participate? How will you collect donations?
- **Outreach:** Distribute flyers, send emails, use social media, ask friends/co-workers to help promote, challenge others to a friendly collecting competition
- **Collect:** Snap a photo of the collection, celebrate your accomplishments with everyone, deliver to the Back2School Brigade

How You Can Help



NVFS on Refugee Wellness and Resiliency



NVFS staff members, including NVFS mental health therapist **Saara Amri** (pictured), participated in the 2018 Refugee Wellness Conference, entitled "Refugees and Resiliency: A Systemic Response." The conference explored the inherent resiliency refugees possess as they overcome multiple challenges, as well as the specific services and/or supports within the system of care to respond to these challenges.

Learn more about how NVFS supports those in need and helps them regain hope, rebuild their lives and create a better future.

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Top Donation Needs

Urgent Needs

- Training Futures: Check out our Amazon wishlist <u>here</u>.
- SERVE Family Shelter: Pillows, bus tokens, toilet paper, paper towels, gift cards in \$10 increments, cleaning supplies, diapers for all sizes (especially sizes 3 and 4), Pull-Ups, wipes, camp supplies (straws, water balloons, yarn, baking soda, corn starch, food coloring, borax, disposable pitchers, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, clear



contact paper, popsicle sticks, keychain rings, contact lens solution)

Ongoing Needs

- SERVE Family Shelter: Double and single strollers, welcome home baskets (kitchen tools, cleaning supplies, sheets, and towels), air mattresses, lamps and kitchen items (pots and pans, plates, silverware, small appliances), diapers (baby and adult), art supplies, face paint, toiletries, sanitary napkins, new bras, summer baby clothing, board books
- Hunger Resource Center: Granola bars, cereal, canned fruit, canned meat, milk, eggs, sugar, salt, pepper, flour

A complete wishlist of items can be found here.

See More Donation Needs

