NVFS Insider: Combating Back-to-School Anxiety in Teens



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Preparing Teens for Academic and Future Success

Going back to school can be an exciting, yet daunting, experience for any child. It can be especially challenging, however, for students who are not only new to a particular school, but new to this country and getting acclimated to a whole new community.

NVFS helps these students navigate this process by partnering with public schools across the region to serve more than 460 students and their families, and to train school personnel on topics such as trauma, vulnerabilities and family reunification so that they are able to engage students effectively and help support them.

Learn how NVFS' Youth Initiatives programs work with youth, their families and community partners to create a welcoming and productive school experience for first-time U.S. students.

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Stanley Martin Homes: Working With NVFS to Create a Stronger Community



Stanley Martin Homes has been a longstanding partner of NVFS, providing support through home renovations as well as hosting fundraising events to benefit our organization. Most recently, the company completed a <u>large-scale renovation project</u> in Woodbridge, Va., to provide a welcoming home for low-income families in the Greater Prince William area.

"Projects like this really do remind us that there are folks all over that are willing to give their time and expertise in order to make a community a better place," noted Andrea Eck, NVFS' executive vice president of programs.

Thank you as well to the following companies for their generous donations to this project, in which Stanley Martin Homes and its vendors provided more than \$73,000 of in-kind support:

84 Lumber Company
Capital Mechanical, LLC
Century Tile, Inc.
East Coast Insulators, Inc.
Eastern Applicators, Inc.
Electrolux
Exceptional Choices, Inc.
Falcon HVAC

Franklin Electric
Heritage Contracting
John Darvish Construction Co.
King Carpentry, Inc.
Lanehart Electrical Contractors
Loudoun Stairs
McCormick Paints
MJ Exteriors
NOVA Waste

Premier Surfaces
R&F Metals, Inc.
Reyes General Cleaning, LLC
Stadler Nurseries
T & A Contractors, Inc.
The L&L Company
Timberlake Cabinetry
Titan Erosion Control

In addition to this renovation project, the Stanley Martin team, along with a number of the same trade partners, completed repairs and upgrades valued at over \$6,500 on two additional NVFS affordable rental properties in the greater Prince William area.

"There are a lot of people here in this community that I know personally. To have Stanley Martin and our contractors be able to give back to the community in this way is unbelieveable," shared Victor Ayala, neighborhood construction manager for Stanley Martin Homes.

Stanley Martin Homes also <u>hosted a bowl-a-thon event</u>, which brought in more than \$22,000 to support NVFS' programs.

Thank you to Stanley Martin Homes for partnering with NVFS and making Northern Virginia a better community together.



Developing Children Through Music Education



The benefits of music education are plentiful; studies have shown the impact music can have on everything from verbal memory to IQ scores, especially in children. Dedicated musical training is certainly a plus, but even informal activities, such as playing music in a group, can boost social development and promote confidence, and increase active listening, cognitive and fine motor control skills.

Bringing these activities to our programs, from our SERVE Family Shelter in Manassas to our Head Start Center in Arlington, provides children an opportunity to explore the joys of

music. Learn how volunteers are sharing this experience with our youngest neighbors and the impact they see.

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Fostering Community Engagement Through Village of Impact



When kids who don't have access to all the school supplies they need, they don't feel as confident and prepared as they embark on a new school year. That's why NVFS helps to ensure than 1,800-plus kids across the region have the tools they need to start the year off strong. This month, we enlisted the help of Village of Impact families — NVFS' family giving circle — for a day of service to support NVFS' Back-to-School Drive by stuffing backpacks for children at NVFS' SERVE Family Shelter and Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center.

Families at the Village of Impact event also learned about how NVFS supports foster children in Northern Virginia through therapeutic foster care. Many children in our community find themselves entering new foster homes when their families are unable to provide them with a safe, stable home. NVFS' foster care program ensures that these children are able to receive the love and support they need during this difficult transition by recruiting and training quality foster parents.

Learn more about <u>Village of Impact</u> and how you can sign up for our virtual service event in October.

RSVP for Our Next Event

Greeter & Bilingual Client Intake Receptionist NVFS Multicultural Center Hunger Resource Center SERVE Family Shelter Manassas Manassas Top Volunteer Needs Shelter Passenger Drivers SERVE Family Shelter Manassas

Top Donation Needs

Healthy Families Fairfax: New baby supplies, including wipes, diapers, pacifiers, rattles/toys, baby proofing supplies, etc.

Training Futures: Check out our Amazon wishlist here.

SERVE Campus: Diapers, wipes, toilet paper, board books, toiletries, adult diapers, gas cards

- SERVE Family Shelter: New pillows, diapers (sizes 3, 4 and 5), pull-up diapers, wipes, laundry detergent, toilet paper, paper towels, full-size lotion, men's and women's deodorant
- Hunger Resource Center. Cereal, canned fruit, canned meat, canned/boxed potatoes, canned beans

A complete wishlist of items can be found <u>here</u>.





Events & Opportunities at NVFS

CARE Awards Breakfast Thursday, Nov. 8

Buy Tickets

Yard Sale Benefiting the Community Saturday, Aug. 25

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Training Futures
Graduation
Friday Sont 14

Friday, Sept. 14

RSVP









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