Education in Action: Building Young Minds Through Firsthand Experience

It’s Head Start Awareness Month, and we have lots of exciting things going on at our center in Arlington — including preparation for a new location! As construction at the new facility is occurring, it offers a unique opportunity to educate students on the building process.

“This is an opportunity for children to learn what’s behind the walls and transform their perspective on buildings so that, whenever they enter a room, they know about all the various parts that make up a building,” says Malinda Langford (pictured), NVFS senior vice president of programs.
Learn more about what the process will entail, as well as more updates from our early childhood education programs.

**NVFS Announces 2018 CARE Award Winners**

For more than 25 years, the Companies As Responsive Employers (CARE) Awards have recognized outstanding companies proactively making Northern Virginia a better place for everyone to work, live and play. This year, NVFS will honor 23 outstanding companies as responsive employers for their deep community impact, outstanding employee engagement and culture, and progressive family-friendly policies.

These companies give back, promote continued learning, and offer flexible work schedules, among many other great benefits, to help ensure the well-being of their employees, and attract and retain top talent.

**Congratulations to Our 2018 winners!**
The True Value of Corporate Engagement

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) is not an emerging trend. It’s a critical aspect of successful businesses that includes engaging employees through service projects, giving-back programs and volunteer leadership in their local community.

“It’s a great team-building opportunity for employees, allows the company to make a significant impact in as little as one half-day service project, and it’s a great way to get volunteers out in their community to better understand its needs,” states Karen Horowitz, NVFS director of community and volunteer engagement.
Learn how such engagement can benefit business operations and recruitment, and the opportunities available through NVFS.

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**Homesense Awards $10,000 Grant to NVFS’ SERVE Family Shelter**

Thank you to Homesense for supporting NVFS’ housing and homeless services! The company recently opened a new store in the Sterling area, and is making a splash by supporting its local region with a $10,000 grant that will go toward NVFS’ SERVE Family Shelter in Manassas. The 92-bed shelter provides access to safe, stable emergency shelter to local families to help them get back on their feet during times of need. Thank you for helping to ensure we can continue to provide this critical resource to our community.

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**Did You Know...**

In just 5 weeks, it will be Thanksgiving! Help support your community as you shop this holiday season through AmazonSmile with ‘Northern Virginia Family Service’ as your chosen organization.

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**Join Us For Our Next Village of Impact Service Day - Dec. 1**

Poverty is stressful year-round but can be particularly challenging during the holidays. Attendees at our next service day will learn some of the additional stressors our neighbors face during this time frame while helping our neighbors in need with a service project for our Operation Turkey drive.

Interested in learning more about the educational and service components of our Village of Impact events? Sign up to receive a link to our October virtual event, which explains how where we live can impact our
health and well-being, and activities and service projects for you to do as a family to encourage further community engagement.

RSVP for Dec. 1

**Top Volunteer Needs**

- **Bilingual Receptionist**
  - Multicultural Center
  - Falls Church

- **Shelter Passenger Driver**
  - SERVE Family Shelter
  - Manassas

- **Food Recovery Driver**
  - Hunger Resource Center
  - Manassas

**Top Donation Needs**

**Head Start & Early Head Start:** Pull-ups and pants for ages 3-5 boys & girls; diapers (all sizes); baby wipes

**Healthy Families:** Baby-proofing supplies; new or gently used baby clothes

**Housing:** Air mattresses; metro cards; basic home necessities

**SERVE Campus** (general): Storage shed; baby clothing (up to 5T); diapers; wipes; toiletries

- **Hunger Resource Center:** Cereal; macaroni and cheese; boxed meals (Hamburger Helper, etc.); canned fruit; applesauce; canned meat; condiments; ravioli and other canned pastas
- **SERVE Family Shelter:** Small to medium-sized pumpkins that can be painted; new pillows; diapers (sizes 3, 4 and 5); Pull-ups; wipes; laundry detergent; toilet paper; paper towels; full-size lotion; men's and women's deodorant; bus tokens / transportation passes

**Training Futures:** Check out our Amazon wishlist [here](#).

A complete wishlist of items can be found [here](#).

Read More

Events & Opportunities at NVFS
CARE Awards Breakfast
Thursday, Nov. 8

Buy Tickets

Operation Turkey
Benefiting Families in Greater Prince William

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Gifting for Families
Benefiting Families in Northern Virginia

Read More

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Northern Virginia Family Service
10455 White Granite Dr., Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124