


NVFS Insider: Expanding Imaginations Through the Power of Reading




NORTHERN VIRGINIA FAMILY SERVICE INVESTING IN FAMILIES
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

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Growing Imaginations Through the Power of Reading

"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child."
– Dr. Seuss

We can all recall a favorite book or story from our childhood — not just for the storyline itself, but how it made us feel. The way it captured our imaginations and let us create an entire world we could explore. Reading aloud to children exposes them this same experience, allowing their imaginations to run free and develop unique scenes as they're pictured in their mind's eye.

Learn how reading to children not only fuels their mental growth, but the growing bonds between parents and children as well.

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Join Our Village of Impact

Tackle family-friendly service projects. Understand key social issues. Improve the lives of local families in need. Join us April 7 to learn how you can be part of this unique giving circle.

RSVP Now

CARE-ing Companies Give Back: A Virtual Week of Service



For more than 25 years, Northern Virginia Family Service has recognized [CARE \(Companies As Responsive Employers\) Award](#) winners for their outstanding culture, progressive family-friendly policies, and community engagement. As [corporate social responsibility](#) (CSR) has become an effective tool for increasing employment engagement, productivity and workplace wellness, it has become a key pillar of CARE-ing companies.

NEW THIS YEAR: The CARE Awards process will place an increased emphasis on creating a

stronger Northern Virginia community through community engagement and corporate social responsibility. And it's something you can start today.

To help kick off the awards process, companies across Northern Virginia are invited to join us for a **virtual week of service (April 15-22, 2018)**. Set up a service event through NVFS or another community partner, and help us create a stronger Northern Virginia region.

[Get Involved Today](#)

Be a hero all year long.

Become a monthly donor for just 83 cents a day. Together, we will build a brighter future for our community.

Donate Today



Understanding the Heart Behind Social Work



Social work, despite being a widely recognized field title, is quite often misunderstood, which can yield a few misconceptions. With March being National Social Work Month, we wanted to shine a light on a career that 650,000 people in our country, including many of our talented staff members, have dedicated their lives to and bring awareness to the heart behind the work.

See how passionate NVFS employees support our clients by using social work best practices to help them build better futures.

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Advocating at Regional and State Levels for Infants, Kids and Teens

Community Conversation: NVFS Explains Intervention for Traumatized Youth

NVFS' Meredith McKeen and Kate Reen participated in a recent panel through the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) to explain the trauma often experienced by recently immigrated youth, how that makes them more vulnerable, and the resources and support we provide to help them better navigate their new lives.



"We work to meet the needs of individuals and families, from anger management and communications skills to how to make informed decisions and access resources," shared Reen, manager of NVFS' Youth Initiatives program. "We are there to partner and help immigrants navigate stressful circumstances."

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NVFS Healthy Families Expresses Gratitude at Advocacy Day

NVFS was honored to attend Advocacy Day in Richmond, alongside fellow Families Forward programs dedicated to disrupting the cycle of child abuse, neglect and poverty, to express gratitude in supporting our [Healthy Families](#) program. With the help of supporters such as these, our program was able to reach an additional 1,000 families this past year.

Beyond the Numbers: 2017 Annual Report Showcases Collective Impact

In 2017, NVFS provided more than 35,000 people with the tools and resources needed to build brighter futures. More important than that number, though, is the profound change we have seen in the lives of the children and families in need whom we have served.

Thank you to our donors, volunteers and community partners for making this past year one full of success.

Read about our collective impact on the Northern Virginia region in our 2017 [annual report](#).



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Top Volunteer Needs

Daytime Van Driver

[Manassas, Va.](#)

[Woodbridge, Va.](#)

Yard Sale Volunteer

[Centreville, Va.](#)

[Falls Church, Va.](#)

Food Recovery Driver

[Manassas, Va.](#)

Top Donation Needs



Family shelters: Pillows, toilet paper, paper towels, gift cards in \$10 increments, double and single strollers, bus tokens, welcome home baskets (kitchen tools, cleaning supplies, sheets, and towels), air mattresses, lamps and kitchen items (pots and pans, plates, silverware, small appliances)

Training Futures: Give the gift of office supplies to incoming Training Futures trainees through purchasing items via our [Amazon Wishlist](#).

our [wishlist](#).

For a complete list of NVFS needs, please see

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Events & Opportunities at NVFS

[Village of Impact](#)
Service Day
Saturday, April 7

[RSVP Now](#)

CARE Virtual Week
of Service
April 15-22

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**Road to
Independence Gala**
Friday, May 11

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