

**IF YOU KNEW WHAT WE KNEW, YOU'D HELP**

# SCAN-IT

**Volume 4  
February 2011**

## Coming Events:

### SCAN 5K – February 26, 2011

Run! Jog! Walk! – It doesn't matter just as long as you come out and support SCAN's work to help Richmond's most vulnerable children. Join us in the Race to Protect Children. Register at [www.grscan.com/news/](http://www.grscan.com/news/)

### Bourbon Street in Shockoe Bottom – March 5, 2011

You won't want to miss the fourth annual Bourbon Street in Shockoe Bottom hosted by SCAN's Board of Young Professionals. This event will be held at the Main Street Station. Purchase tickets at <http://www.grscan.ticketleap.com/bourbonstreet/>

### Shamrock the Block - March 12, 2011

Shamrock the Block is free to attend with great food, live music and plenty o' green beverages for you to enjoy safely at 18th Street in Shockoe Bottom. For more information, please visit <http://shamrocktheblock.com/>.

### Spend 20 Save 20 at the Shops at 5807—March 26, 2011

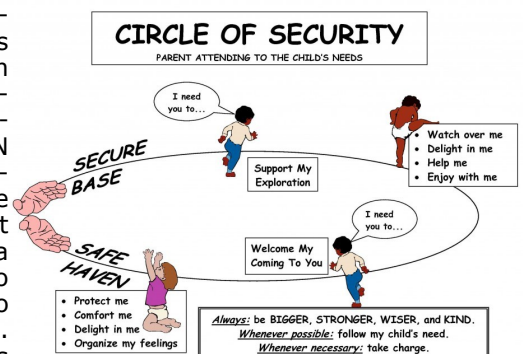
Bring your friends and indulge in pastry delights, mimosas, music, raffles, and 20% off select merchandise from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$20 in honor of our 20th Anniversary. We are currently looking for hostesses for the event. If you are interested in becoming a hostess or have any other questions, please contact Cathy Bos at [bosload@verizon.net](mailto:bosload@verizon.net).

## From the Executive Director:

At SCAN, we aim to serve families and children with the highest quality education and treatment options. We do this by consistently referring to the latest research, best practices and the work of our national partners. For example, Dr. Bruce Perry's work with traumatized and maltreated children is a consistent source of both inspiration and knowledge in all of our programs, specifically our new Circle Preschool Program. In our Family Support Program groups, SCAN recently implemented The Circle of Security, which is a nationally recognized best intervention practice to help caregivers improve their relationships with their young children. We also continually look to the National Child Advocacy Center and most recently we have taken their lead to reduce incidences of child pornography and trafficking. Other examples of our commitment to professional development abound, and this is reflected in the work we do every day to set clients up for success within their families and in our community. Our goal is to continually improve our services for the Greater Richmond community and its children.

## The Circle of Security Model for Parenting

As SCAN helps children and caregivers each day, our staff members continue to base their practices on the latest, most innovative and evidence-based examples. In our Family Support Program (FSP), SCAN recently piloted The Circle of Security to better help the caregivers we serve in our education and treatment groups. The Circle of Security is a nationally recognized model used to strategically empower parents to improve their parenting capacities. The Circle of Security integrates more than 50 years of early childhood attachment research into a video-based intervention model, which presents clear and individualized guidance for each caregiver to develop and sustain a secure relationship with his or her child. SCAN has piloted this model in one of our court-ordered education and treatment groups. For eight weeks of the 20-week course, a SCAN group facilitator applied the video-based model to help caregivers. SCAN plans to begin using The Circle of Security model in future education and treatment groups for caregivers.



The model helped caregivers improve their ability to recognize the needs of their children and appropriately respond to them. FSP Coordinator Melissa McGinn, Executive Director Jeanine Harper and Circle Preschool Program Clinical Services Coordinator Kathy Ryan have each received training on The Circle of Security model to help caregivers. SCAN intends to also apply The Circle of Security model as we work with caregivers in our Circle Preschool Program. To learn more about The Circle of Security, please visit <http://www.circleofsecurity.org/>.

## Online Resources for Families

The Families are Magic (FAM) Prevention Program is a universal prevention model that offers education and support to all adults caring for children. Parenting can be a difficult task from potty training to communicating with teenagers. SCAN developed the [www.FAMRichmond.org](http://www.FAMRichmond.org) Website as a comprehensive place for caregivers and professionals working with families to go to for education, support and resources. The Website is a clearinghouse of events, articles, advice and other tools to help mothers, fathers and other caregivers be the best they can be for their children.

"It was meant for parents who used the internet so that they could flag our site for parenting questions and information," said Denise Noble, FAM Coordinator. "We have done the work for them so they get the best available information instead of relying on information they find using search engines. We also encourage parents to ask questions to SCAN staff members through the site."

The Website features information about ongoing offerings for caregivers through SCAN, including our Circle of Parents groups. The "Activities" page is updated monthly with ideas of activities for caregivers to share with their children. The calendar is updated regularly, as well, with parenting workshops and other enrichment opportunities for families. The "Information" page is our clearinghouse of information on topics including vaccinations, sibling rivalry, breast feeding and more; the links are continually updated to ensure the highest quality information. Finally, our "Resources" page offers an equally comprehensive bank of resources for caregivers from family support groups to mentoring programs for children to government programs.

Every parent needs help, needs a question answered and needs support. The site averages more than 1,000 a hits a month. Please visit the site yourself as a caregiver or recommend it to a caregiver you know: [www.FAMRichmond.org](http://www.FAMRichmond.org).

## A Board Member Visits Richmond CASA

SCAN board member Kevin Collier wasn't sure exactly what he was getting into when he attended a Richmond CASA court session in January. The case he observed involved a mother who had been charged with neglecting her 8 year old son. The child was receiving treatment for ADD and was struggling in school. The mother had a history of substance abuse and had also been cited for prostitution. "An environment of poverty, unemployment and general lack of day-to-day living resources also contributed to the unfavorable situation in the home," recalls Kevin.

The mother had been working with CASA staff members and a volunteer to get treatment for substance abuse and stabilize her home to best support her son. The mother had been successful in completing a substance abuse treatment program and the judge dismissed the case allowing her to

retain custody of her child, pending ongoing participation with other social services programs.

In honor of Kevin's attendance, the judge led a discussion afterwards with CASA staff, the CASA volunteer, lawyers, social workers and the guardian ad litem. Each person shared stories about how CASA impacts their work every day in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court system, offering praises for CASA volunteers' ability to support the work they do to ensure children are placed in safe, permanent homes. Most of them had connected families and children to other SCAN programs. The opinion at large was that SCAN was a highly trusted and valuable partner during their day-to-day work in the community. To learn more about Richmond City's Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court system, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/48d4eru>.

## Ending Child Trafficking and Pornography

The National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC) continually offers training opportunities and information to our multidisciplinary team members at our CAC. In addition to this ongoing source of knowledge to improve the way we investigate, treat and prosecute cases of severe physical abuse and sexual abuse, the NCAC also guides us in advocating for change on the national level. Most recently, the NCAC is leading the way on preventing and ending child trafficking and pornography. Fueled by technology, these terrifying issues are increasingly becoming an issue in our own country.

In addition to domestic girls who are sold into prostitution, about 14,500 to 17,500 girls from other countries are smuggled into the United States for this purpose, according to the U.S. State Department. Similarly, tens of thousands of Websites are wrongly used for child pornography every day.

Currently at the CAC, our staff assists federal investigators on a courtesy basis during investigations in which possible hands-on sexual assault may have affected a child who was close to a person charged with child pornography. The CAC staff assists by interviewing children as a part of a "rule out" to make sure those children haven't been hurt, said CAC Coordinator Ian Danielsen.

The CAC will similarly work with federal investigators on cases involving child trafficking, as both involve illegal behaviors that cross state lines. Ian has been invited to attend the NCAC annual symposium to attend a day-long intensive training session on assisting in child trafficking cases, on March 28.

### Early Childhood Education and Economic Stability in Richmond

At The Circle Preschool Program, SCAN mental health therapists and educators hope to improve the lives of both the children and caregivers we serve. While we are investing our time in each of their individual cases, we are also investing in a larger goal: our area's economic stability. According to early childhood development expert J. Ronald Lally, PhD, 50 years of research supports high quality early childhood education as "the most economically viable approach to building better students and productive citizens."

Children who suffer from early emotional challenges are more likely to have low academic success rates, more likely to need remedial help and more likely have poor relationships with their peers and family. These initial setbacks in life often lead to substance abuse, incarceration and

the need for other social services, which ultimately require spending by local, state and national governments as well as the non-profit sector. The most at-risk children are those who experience trauma from extreme poverty, homes where caregivers abuse substances, and homes where domestic violence is prevalent. By offering specialized education and treatment early to children who have these experiences that alter their development, SCAN has the opportunity to set them up for success in life.

This success will not only show through in each child's interpersonal relationships, but it will also echo in their professional development. By preparing children to better develop and learn, SCAN will contribute to a prosperous workforce. Nobel Prize winning economist James Heckman's



analysis of the Chicago Child Parent Center Study estimated \$48,000 in benefits to the public, per at-risk child, from half-day preschool attendance. As we develop our program during its first year, we are excited about the possibilities to improve the lives of the children we treat and educate so that they can be a part of a prosperous Richmond community in the future.

### Race to Protect Children

### Greater Richmond SCAN 3rd Annual 5k Run/Walk



**February 26, 2011  
West Broad Village  
In Short Pump**

**Entry Fee: \$20 for adults and  
\$10 for children. Register now  
at [www.grscan.com](http://www.grscan.com)!**

### Thank you Protector's Circle 2010-2011 Members

Kathleen and Gerard Albanese  
Dottie Amore  
Trina and Roy Anise  
Kelly and Tiffany Armstrong  
Lindley and Coby Beck  
Cathy and Howard Bos  
Kathryn and Matt Brotherton  
Carter and John Bryan  
Leemore and Alan Burke  
Daisy and Tom Byrd  
Eva Cabaniss  
Jennifer and David Campbell  
Jeff Chandler  
Andrea and Robert Clark  
Kevin Collier  
Bill and Nona Collin  
Rose and Josh Dare  
Susan and Bob Dausch  
Dr. Trudy Rickman and Chuck Dean  
Carrie and Bob Delille  
Mark Dillon  
Theresa DiMarco  
Lawrence Eiben  
Anne Marie and Scott Elles  
Jean and Rob Estes  
Dena Frith and Chris Moore  
Betsy and Bobby Fauntleroy  
Dana and Gray Garland  
William Ginther  
Katherine and Michael Godin  
Bruce Gottwald  
Mary Anne Graf

Sasha and Michael Hogan  
Diane and Gene Hosenfeld  
Billy Hupp  
Kari and Heath Hyman  
Gail and Earl Johnson  
Kimberly and William Johnson  
Carrie and Tommy Johnstone  
Cindy and Michael Joyce  
Margaret and Jerry Keightley  
Jen and John Kostyniuk  
Amy and Byron Ladd  
Elizabeth and Michael Martin  
Cathy and Read McGehee  
Mindy and Massie Meredith  
Jasper Mersereau  
Caroline and Marshall Morton  
Jay Olander  
Leslie Parpart and Kurt Friday  
Dorothy and Stan Pauley  
Scottie and George Phillips  
Kevin Purnell  
Kathleen and Bob Redmond  
Michael Sieja  
Dorinda Smith  
Syral and Bud Specter  
Martha and Bobby Speight  
Charlie Stallings  
Judith Strickler  
Eric Sundberg  
Letty and Bill Tate  
Margaretha and Jose Valderas