



SCAN-IT

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Richmond CASA Swears in a New Class of Volunteers

Richmond CASA swore in a new class of volunteers on November 7. Each of the 22 volunteers went through an intensive 35-hours of training and court observations to advocate on behalf of children involved in cases of abuse or neglect in the Richmond City Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.

“I think this class has risen to the great needs of Richmond’s most vulnerable children by readily jumping into the cases they were assigned,” Program Director Peg Ruggiero said. “The new volunteers were sworn in on a Thursday evening and the next week, when they came to pick up their assigned cases, they left our office excited and eager to get to work. That is always what amazes me about the people who become CASA volunteers.”



The group of 22 was the largest class Richmond CASA had ever trained and sworn in. Volunteer Coordinator Jana Blue said that they came from many different backgrounds and areas of Richmond.

“They have one common quest – to make a difference in the lives of children,” Jana said. “We have enjoyed getting to know them and look forward to supporting them in their advocacy.”

Last fiscal year, Richmond CASA volunteers served more than 200 children. Volunteers dedicate 12 to 15 hours each month to learning about and advocating for children in the cases appointed to them. Last fiscal year, Richmond CASA volunteers provided 4,214 hours of service.

Below are quotes from some of our new volunteers, whom we are fortunate to have working with us to keep children safe!

“Growing up in a disadvantaged area where I saw a dire need for people to help children that were abused, I feel very privileged to be able to be one of those individuals that will do my best to advocate for the best interest of a child. I hope to make a big impact and a difference in many children's lives, one at a time!”
– Anna Rauda, CASA Volunteer

“I found the training to be very informative in that it allowed for us to be interactive with one another beyond traditional lecture style. We were able to voice our opinions openly and honestly while maintaining respect for our fellow classmates.” - Shanequa Lewis, CASA Volunteer

“It is a privilege to be a part of the CASA program and serve as an advocate for children who don't really have a voice.” Elaine Minor, CASA Volunteer

[Learn more about becoming a CASA volunteer at www.grscan.com](http://www.grscan.com)

[View photos from the swearing in on Facebook.](#)

SCAN Hosts Child Safety Symposium

Nearly 100 people who work with children at-risk of child abuse or neglect attended the Child Safety Symposium on November 18 in Richmond Public Library –Main Branch.

Participants learned how to observe, respond and report outcries of child abuse or neglect based on their professions and roles in a child's life.

"The purpose of the Symposium was to pull together what we have to offer from SCAN in terms of expertise so that we could help people who work in direct services with children who we also will likely see at SCAN," said Child Advocacy Center (CAC) Coordinator Ian Danielsen.

Each participant was awarded a certificate based on three different trainings held during the symposium.

The first training was "Trauma 101," developed by SCAN last year to increase understanding of trauma's impact on children. The second training was about mandated reporting, which educates participants about who is required by law to report suspected child abuse and neglect and the correct ways to report. SCAN offers both of these workshops throughout the year to professionals working with children.

Finally, Child Safety Symposium participants learned about the purpose and functions of a Multidisciplinary Team (MDT). Four local MDTs are managed by the CAC, SCAN's nationally accredited program that serves children who have been physically or sexually abused. Participants learned how they play roles as community stakeholders in investigations of child abuse and neglect.

"We wanted to help people fulfill their mandated reporter roles while also learning about the MDT protocols of our collaborative investigations," Ian said.

There were professionals in the audience who represented a variety of child-serving roles: intensive in-home providers, school personnel, medical professionals, mental health providers, and more. The common thread among participants was that they were each in a position to hear outcries or allegations of child abuse or neglect.

The event was offered at no cost and SCAN hopes to offer the program annually.

Email Lucy Block if you'd like to host a Trauma 101 Training or a Mandated Reporter training at your office, your church or other location:
lblock@grscan.com.

Santa Shop is Around the Corner!



Each winter, SCAN collects gifts for children served in its programs. Last fiscal year, SCAN served more than 800 children affected by abuse and neglect. Please consider donating new toys, clothing and other gifts for children from infant to 17 years old by December 13. You may deliver gifts to SCAN's main office at 103 E. Grace Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Contact Margie at mgehler@grscan.com for more information.

You may also deliver gifts during the Grand Illumination: On December 6 at 5:59 p.m. Santa and Lite 98 will count down the seconds to turn on the downtown office buildings lights and James Center's Great Tree and Reindeer. Bring your whole family from 6 – 7 p.m. to enjoy the magic of the holidays with two blocks of family entertainment including The Kings of Swing.

Drop off a gift for a child at the collection sleigh located in the Three James Center Lobby.

After we collect gifts, SCAN will invite caregivers to choose gifts and then wrap them to bring home to their children during the holidays. This year, caregivers will participate in the Santa Shop on December 16 and 17.

Mustaches for Kids Wants YOU!

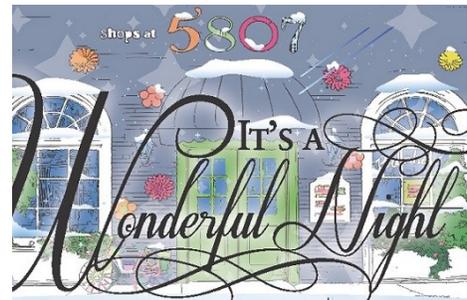


This year's Growing Season kicked off on **November 13** and ends on **December 13** during M4K's annual Stache Bash celebration. "Growers" collect donations as they grow mustaches. Proceeds once again benefit ASK Childhood Cancer Foundation, The Children's Hospital Foundation and Greater Richmond SCAN. Last year, the group raised more than \$55,000! Please consider checking out their photos, donating or offering some encouragement. You may see someone you know! Visit the website at www.m4krichmond.org.

The Flying Squirrels partnered with M4K Richmond for their **2013 Season of Giving** Promotion which begins Monday, **December 9th** and extends through Saturday, **December 14th**. 10% of their weekly retail sales will benefit Greater Richmond SCAN, ASK, and Children's Hospital beginning Monday and running through Friday from **9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, and 20% of their weekly retail sales will also benefit Greater Richmond SCAN, ASK, and Children's Hospital on **Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** All online sales beginning Monday and extending through Saturday will also benefit all three organizations.

Check out their merchandise now at www.flyingsquirrels.com/milbstore.com.

It's a Wonderful Night



**Thursday, December 5
5 to 8 p.m.**

Join SCAN at the **Shops at 5807**. Get your holiday shopping done at one of Richmond's most eclectic and fashionable places while a portion of proceeds will benefit SCAN. Also consider dropping off a gift for SCAN's Annual Santa Shop toy drive. Please RSVP to Bethany at bleighton@grscan.com.

Registration Now Open!

**6th Annual Race to
Protect Children**

**Saturday, May 3, 2014
West Broad Village**

Learn more at
www.grscan.com.



Thank you!

Thank you to [The Pediatric Connection](#) for hosting a jewelry party to benefit SCAN.

Thank you to the [Richmond College Dean's Office](#) for collecting snacks for children served in SCAN's programs.

Please Consider SCAN in your Philanthropy Plans this Holiday

At SCAN, nothing is more important than protecting children from harm and helping them heal once harm has been done. For more than a 20 years, SCAN has taken a leadership role in the Greater Richmond area to provide a collaborative and compassionate response to helping victims of child abuse and neglect. SCAN also works tirelessly to educate the community at large so that everyone can make an even greater difference in the lives of children. Thank you for role you play improving the lives of children who have been exposed to abuse.

With your financial support, there are more families we can help together. To make a secure donation now, you can visit www.grscan.com. You may also mail a check or consider SCAN in your workplace giving campaigns. All donations are tax deductible. Please call if you have any questions about giving to SCAN: (804) 257-7226.

SAVE THE DATE

Bourbon Street at the Tuckahoe

Saturday, March 1, 2014
8 p.m. to Midnight

Tuckahoe Woman's Club
4215 Dover Road, Richmond, VA
23221

Join us again for live music, dancing, dinner and an open bar, featuring a fantastic bourbon selection, hurricanes, wine tastings and more.

[Learn more at www.grscan.com.](http://www.grscan.com)

Progressive Dinner & Auction

Saturday, April 5, 2014
5 pm to Midnight

Tuckahoe Woman's Club
4215 Dover Road, Richmond, VA
23221

Join us for dinner in the homes around Windsor Farms and Westmoreland Place followed by dessert, dancing and auction at Tuckahoe Woman's Club. [Learn more at www.grscan.com.](http://www.grscan.com)

Thank you Protector's Circle Members

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ruth and Franco Ambrogi | Debra Krey |
| Trina and Roy Anise | Benjamin Ladd |
| Toni Ardabell | Amy and Byron Ladd |
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| Margaret and Jerry Keightley | Stephanie and Brad Welles |
| Jen and John Kostyniuk | |

Thank for Making Taste of Terroir a Success!



Thank you to all of the guests who joined us during TASTE of Terroir on October 26, 2013 at The Bull & Bear Club. SCAN's third annual TASTE event raised more than \$60,000. Please view photos on [Facebook](#).

Thank you to our Sponsors:

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Thank you to our In-Kind Sponsors:

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Elizabeth Spencer
Congressional Seafood

Why Are We Thankful?

In honor of the Thanksgiving holiday, we at SCAN are grateful for our many partners and supporters who make our work possible. We are also thankful to have the opportunity to touch children and their families each and every day in our programs. We believe that together we can make a difference and prevent children from being or hurt or from being hurt again. Please read below for what SCAN staff members are thankful for.

“I am thankful for being with people every day who care deeply about children and reflect it in everything they do. I am thankful that we move through this work together with faith, hope and joy. I am thankful for everyone who gives to our mission in some way. It all matters and enables us to continue to work on behalf of children. I am thankful for people’s courage as they face hard things and times.” – *Jeanine Harper, Executive Director*

“I am thankful for my many co-workers at SCAN. Teamwork is not an ideal here; it is a daily practice. I have never worked at an agency with so much mutual support, trust, good faith, and good humor among staff members. In a work environment where we persistently have to bring our ‘A-game,’ where we have to work with kids and families who have suffered so greatly, the support of my fellow staff helps keep me attuned to the privilege it is to be able to do this work.” - *Ian Danielsen, CAC (Child Advocacy Center) Coordinator*

“I am thankful that I was able to pursue an educational path that has informed my passion for and commitment to protecting children. I am also thankful that I get to work in a space where no matter how stressed and busy we all are, there is an unspoken understanding that we are all on the same page of carrying out SCAN’s mission.” *Angela Borsella, Family Support Program Coordinator*

“I am grateful for each day, that my son is healthy and carving out his path and for my friends who make me laugh, support me and are just generally fabulous.” *Peg Ruggiero, Richmond CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) Program Coordinator*