



Volume 24 October 2012

Educational Advocacy through CASA

As National CASA CEO Michael Piraino pointed out in a recent post on the <u>National CASA blog</u>, "The educational outcomes for foster youth read like a list of all the things we don't want for our children: Lower grades, more behavior problems, higher rates of suspension from school, lower high school graduation rates, and very low postsecondary school completion rates."

At Richmond CASA, the staff members from Chesterfield, Henrico and Richmond CASA held a workshop on September 30 called "The ABCs of Educational Advocacy" for CASA volunteers. About 70 people, most of whom were Chesterfield, Henrico or Richmond CASA volunteers, attended the training.



Lisa Bennett, Managing Attorney, of the JustChildren Program of the Legal Aid Center, and Bonnie Hathaway, Richmond CASA volunteer and certified educational surrogate, presented to volunteers. They focused on the legal aspects of special education and the specifics of how to effectively advocate for the educational needs of children within our communities.

Lisa helped volunteers understand the laws and regulations regarding children in special education, and the types of educational services that children in foster care should receive. Bonnie shared specific examples of how CASA volunteers could ensure that children were receiving the services and attention that best fit their needs in a school environment.

Read more at www.casaforchildren.org.

Welcome New Board of Young Professionals Members

We would like to welcome our new Board of Young Professionals members who will help SCAN in our mission to prevent and treat child abuse and neglect this year: Sam Dibert, Danielle Jones, Nuper Bal and Lyndsay Downey.

<u>Learn more about SCAN's Board of Young</u> Professionals at www.grscan.com.

TASTE of Chinoiserie

Thank you again to everyone who participated and contributed towards the 2nd Annual TASTE event.

Please check out the photos on <u>Facebook!</u>



Thank you!

Franco's Fine Clothier

Thank you to Franco's Fine Clothier for partnering with SCAN to celebrate their 40th Anniversary. The evening raised more than \$10,000 to benefit SCAN. Frank Ambrogi, Mark Ambrogi and Kevin Reardon said: "Franco's feels privileged to be able to partner with a local non-profit with the important mission of preventing and treating child abuse and neglect. We are very excited and thankful for the contributions made and the overwhelming support from our valued customers and vendors." Check out photos from the event on Facebook.

Vogue Flowers

Vogue Flowers hosted a special morning for Circle Preschool Program students at their farm. Employees discussed the ways that they care for the plants and animals and the ways in which plants and animals give back to them. Each child was able to feed the horses and the chickens. They experienced beehives and how honey is collected. Circle Preschool students were also able to sit on a tractor and eat a plate of fresh cucumbers from the garden and fresh figs from their tree and much more!

HandsOn Greater Richmond

Thank you to HandsOn Greater Richmond volunteers who volunteered with SCAN during HandsOn Day. You all made a difference! We now have a great mural to use in our Children's Groups and at community events. In addition, the volunteers also helped to create a crash pad for children served in SCAN's Circle Preschool Program. The crash pad will serve as a valuable therapeutic tool to help children in need.

Check out photos of the SCAN volunteer project on Facebook.

Good Foods Grocery

Thank you to Good Foods Grocery for partnering with SCAN during their opening of the Stony Point Good Foods Cafe. Good foods recently renovated and added a great new café. They welcomed SCAN to be a part of the event to raise awareness about our work, but also raffled off a bike to benefit SCAN.

Coming Events

Ellwood Thompson's 5% Day

November 18 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Get your Thanksgiving shopping done at Ell**wood Thompson's**. Five percent of the day's sales will benefit SCAN and the children and families we serve. View the event here.

Ten Thousand Villages Shopping Event

December 2

3 to 5 p.m.

Shop for the holidays at Ten Thousand Villages in Carytown. SCAN will receive a portion of the sales during this time period. Learn more about Ten Thousand Villages in Richmond at www.richmond.tenthousandvillages.com.

View the event on Facebook.

Shops at 5807 Holiday Event

December 6 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Join SCAN at the **Shops at 5807**. Get your holiday shopping done at one of Richmond's most unique places while a portion of proceeds will benefit SCAN. This event is co-sponsored by Style Weekly's Belle Magazine. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be available for guests. View the event on Facebook.

Save the Date

SCAN's Bourbon Street Event February 9, 2013 Tuckahoe Woman's Club

Race to Protect Children 5k April 6, 2013 West Broad Village

Windsor Farms Progressive Dinner & Auction April 20, 2013 Tuckahoe Woman's Club



Christine Krawczel Empowers SCAN Staff to Make a Difference

Christine Krawczel serves as SCAN's Development Assistant. Her job takes her to all corners of SCAN's programs each day.

"I am involved in all the different aspects of the mission," she said. "I have learned so much about the different things the organization does and how my role supports all of those things and makes them possible."

Christine began working for SCAN in January 2012. Christine handles the finance, operations, special events, and grant reporting at SCAN. She has a master's degree in public administration from VCU. While a student at VCU, she became familiar with SCAN's programs because many of her classmates were interns or volunteers at SCAN.

"I had always heard great things from their experiences," she said.

Christine said she learned quickly after receiving her undergraduate degree in political science and legal studies from Virginia Tech that she would work for a nonprofit. She spent time working for different nonprofit organizations, including a school in Switzerland and different arts and education-based organizations.

SCAN's mission in particular is important to Christine. Growing up, her mom was a case manager for a domestic violence shelter.

"I was most excited to first be involved with such a great cause," Christine said after she began working for SCAN. "Secondly, I was excited to put my academic studies and experiences into practice."

"Christine has dived right into doing the things behind the scenes that makes everybody's work possible at SCAN," Jeanine said. "She brings a lot of energy and capability to SCAN. Everything she does helps SCAN carry out our work."

Thank you!

University of Richmond's Wellness Education Bandits

Thank you for hosting a 5k around the Westhampton Lake to benefit Greater Richmond SCAN on October 27. We appreciate the continued support of Richmond's students!

Thank you to **Leanne Mazzeo** who donated toys to children served by SCAN's programs.

Thank you to the <u>Richmond Police Department's Major Crimes Division</u> who collected snacks for children served by SCAN's programs.

Thank you to <u>Three Chopt Elementary School</u> for collecting snacks for children served by SCAN's programs.

Thank you to our **Protector's Circle** members who help make SCAN's vital work possible each day.

Board of Directors Member John Turner

John Turner joined SCAN's Board of Directors in July 2012. He first became interested in SCAN's work last fall.

Former Board member Josh Dare invited him to the annual Board of Directors Breakfast. At the event, John heard from SCAN volunteers, clients and staff members. Through his colleagues at Bon Secours, he also learned more about SCAN's work. With many years of volunteer experience mentoring and tutoring underprivileged children, SCAN's mission became important to him.

"SCAN's work touches on all aspects of child abuse from educating the parents to dealing with the worst cases of child abuse to improve their lives to eliminate that pain as much as possible," John said. "I have four kids who are ages 20 to 27. I am fortunate that I have been able to give them a good upbringing. I wanted to do more to help families in need."

John is looking forward to sharing information about SCAN's work to the community, particularly at Bon Secours, where he is Vice President of Orthopedics in Virginia. He manages the development of programs in each hospital and works closely

Ruth and Franco Ambrogi

with physicians. Bon Secours has more than 7, 000 employees and he looks forward to empowering them with information to make a difference, especially those in pediatrics.

"Providing information to the community about SCAN regarding the services they provide that can make a difference in everyone's life and help stop child abuse is important," John said. "With the impact that SCAN has on many lives I want to let others know how they can make a bigger difference by participating, donating, spreading the word and more."

Read more about SCAN's Board of Directors at www.grscan.com.



Thank you Protector's Circle Members

Trina and Roy Anise Toni Ardabell **Kelly and Tiffany Armstrong Lindley and Coby Beck Cathy and Howard Bos Kathryn and Matt Brotherton** Carter and John Bryan Wendy and Wadsford Bugg **Daisy and Tom Byrd Edie and Bob Cabaniss James Cabaniss** Jennifer and David Campbell Jeff Chandler **Andrea and Robert Clark Kevin Collier** Rose and Josh Dare Susan and Bob Dausch **Trudy Rickman and Chuck Dean** Carrie and Bob Delille **Paul Edmunds Anne Marie and Scott Elles** Samira Fazel **Audrey and David Franks Dena Frith and Chris Moore Dana and Gray Garland** Bruce Gottwald, Jr. **Mary Anne Graf** Martha and John Grover **Betsy and Frank Harris Cindy and George Harrison Hilary and Brett Hawkins** Marsha and Michael Hawkins Diane and Gene Hosenfeld Diane and Billy Hupp Renee and Stephen Hupp Kari and Heath Hyman **Kimberly and William Johnson** Gail and Reginald Johnson **Carrie and Tommy Johnstone Cindy and Michael Joyce**

Margaret and Jerry Keightley Jen and John Kostyniuk **Debra Krev Benjamin Ladd** Amy and Byron Ladd Juliet and Mark Levin Kat and Mike Liebschwager **Tehshau Luan Elizabeth and Michael Martin** Cathy and Read McGehee Jasper Mersereau Lynn Mussatt Allie and Richard Oelhafen, Jr. Jay Olander Linda and Larry Paige **Shelton Panak** Ann Marie and Bryan Petrucelli Scottie and George Phillips Kelly Pickerel **Kevin Purnell** Thomas Rankin Leslie and Winston Read **Kathleen and Bob Redmond Cynthia Schmitz** Janet and Lee Showalter Michael Sieia **Dorinda Smith** Martha and Bobby Speight Jeanne and Stallings Lucinda and John Stanchina Mary and Wally Stettinius Laura and Patrick Strickler Eric Sundberg **Letty and Bill Tate** John Turner Margaretha and Jose Valderas Janet and Mark Walker **Elizabeth Scott Warren Laura and Steve Wilson Stephanie and Brad Welles**

Changing Lives at the Circle Preschool Program

More than 70 people joined SCAN's Board of Directors on October 24 to learn about childhood trauma and SCAN's work in the Circle Preschool Program to help children who have experienced trauma related to abuse, neglect or exposure to domestic violence.

Lynne Edwards has spent more than 40 years working with children and families and currently works for the Virginia Department of Social Services. Lynne is respected by SCAN and other organizations as an expert on childhood trauma. She has partnered with SCAN to inform our programs and the community at large. Lynne described to the audience what childhood trauma is and why it is so important to prevent and treat it.

"It overwhelms children's capacity to cope," she said. "It becomes a major distraction in carrying out day to day tasks, which is what differentiates it from how we might manage trauma to what happens with children. It affects their ability to trust other people and has a profound impact on their perception of themselves. They are full of fear and anxiety. They might be withdrawn, sometimes aggressive. They are a challenge in the classroom, a challenge at home...."

Dr. Fred Orelove then spoke. Fred worked for 30 years as a professor of special education and disability policy at VCU. Among many roles throughout the community, he is now a weekly volunteer in SCAN's Circle Preschool Program two days a week. He spoke to guests about his experience in the program. He shared one story about how he witnesses the impact of the program.

"I remember one day this past spring, I was working with a young child--a four-year-old girl," Fred began. "She was very angry. She had good reason to be. Her normal state was that of fear and anger. I was working with her at the water table one day with another child. I looked over and saw something I had never seen before in many weeks of working with her. It was a smile. I realized I had never seen this girl smile before... What SCAN is doing in the Circle Preschool Program with these youngsters, is giving these children their childhoods back."

Finally, SCAN welcomed Donna, who is the aunt of a child served by the Circle Preschool Program. She detailed the history of the child's trauma, which involved physical and sexual abuse. Donna received custody of this young girl after these incidents came to light. Then, she shared the changes she has witnessed in her niece's life and in her family.

"She started the preschool on March 28, 2011," Donna said. "She went straight through until two weeks before school started this year. The difference was that this child came to me, clinging to me, she was pitiful and in a state of despair. Now, on the first day of school, she got on the bus and said 'See ya, Mom!'... Kathy and Denise were right there from every angle. From the educational angle to the psychological angle, to knowing the history, to knowing how to deal with it. Unfortunately there are bad things that go on in the world. The good part is there are people like those who work for SCAN."

SCAN is fortunate to have talented staff member and community partners who make this program possible. SCAN hopes the work in the Circle Preschool will be used throughout the community, the state and the country to improve the lives of children in need. Thank you to everyone who contributes to SCAN to make this program possible.

It cost \$15,000 for one child to participate in the Circle Preschool for one year. If you are interested in contributing towards a scholarship, please contact Megan at msouthall@grscan.com to learn more. Learn more about the Circle Preschool Program at www.grscan.com.