



# SCAN-IT

**Volume 8  
June 2011**

## **Coming Events:**

### **Friday Cheers** *June 24*

Join us at Friday Cheers at Brown's Island to listen to Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings with The New Belgians and enjoy food and beverages. We need volunteers and supporters! To volunteer, contact [volunteer@grscan.com](mailto:volunteer@grscan.com) or call 257.7226.

### **Blue Goat Restaurant Opening** *July 6*

SCAN will be the beneficiary of an opening event for the new restaurant called the Blue Goat, which is part of the Osaka chain of restaurants. The night will feature tastings of the Blue Goat's new menu. Follow SCAN and the Blue Goat on Facebook for updates.

## **Putting a Nationally Accredited Model to Work**

As you read last month, SCAN recently created a partnership with officials in Prince George County so that children in Prince George who are involved in cases of abuse and neglect receive the highest quality response. Read the article [here](#).

Prince George became the fifth locality to operate a multidisciplinary team through SCAN's Child Advocacy Center. Multidisciplinary teams are referred to as "MDTs." Child Advocacy Centers are set up to establish and support these teams to coordinate investigations of child abuse and neglect. How does SCAN help make this happen?



"Often someone in law enforcement asked for the CAC's help with forensic interviews and were able to come to the center to see our services in action," said Ian Danielsen, CAC Coordinator. "The model speaks for itself."

For Prince George, a police department official was impressed with the way SCAN employees interacted with non-offending caregivers and hurt children. Other factors that make an impression on local officials include the CAC's adherence to high standards, the follow up protocol and the child-friendly aspects of the facility. Each of these components work to provide the best services to reduce trauma for children.

As one of only seven accredited CACs of the 17 CACs in Virginia, SCAN's CAC works to develop dynamic MDTs in localities that involve the necessary parties including: local law enforcement, Social Services,

the county or city attorney's office and Victim Witness Assistance Program, and VCU's Child Protection Team.

Then, says Ian, SCAN encourages the different potential MDT members to hold meetings to talk through the collaboration and draft protocols that best adheres to the accredited model but also considers their unique resources and local challenges. They must commit to all aspects of the accredited model, which include case tracking, peer reviews, ongoing training, cultural competency, forensic interviewing standards and more.

"These are the things that are necessary so that families don't slip through the cracks," Ian said.

Eventually, a formal agreement is drafted and signed and the community makes a commitment to entitle children to services that the CAC offers, including forensic interviews, case reviews, and ongoing mental health therapy.

### More Coming Events

#### **Keagan's Irish Pub** *July 19, 4 to 9 p.m.*

Join us at the new Keagan's Irish Pub in Short Pump for a fun dinner to celebrate with us and 15% of the proceeds will benefit SCAN. We'll be previewing our new website all night!

#### **Richmond Raiders 2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament** *October 3, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.*

Join us at the James River Golf Course at the Country Club of Virginia. There will be two shot gun starts at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. The tournament will benefit the Richmond Raiders Impact Program as well as SCAN.

#### **Taste of Italy**

*September 10, 2011*

Join Top Chef Star Mike Isabella and other SCAN supporters for a cocktail reception, live and silent auction, seven-course Italian dinner and wine pairings. Learn more at [www.grscan.com](http://www.grscan.com).

#### **Richmond Children's Festival** *October 22, 2011*

Join us during our first Children's Festival at the Richmond Raceway Complex. Music, fun, food and more will be offered for Richmond families for free.

### Thank you!

Thank you **Pescados China Street** and those who joined SCAN on Monday, June 20 for lunch or dinner. Pescados donated 15% of the day's proceeds to SCAN.

Thank you to **CarMax Foundation** for their support of SCAN this month.

Thank you also to the **Jackson Foundation** for their continued support this year.

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**Like Twitter better? We want 1,000  
followers there, too! Follow us now.**

### Responsibility with your donations

As you read above, SCAN is proud to strategically partner with a number of organizations and leaders in the community to efficiently use the community's resources to help the most at-risk children and families. As SCAN enters the end of its fiscal year, we need your help more than ever.

[View our 990s](http://www.GiveRichmond.org) at [www.GiveRichmond.org](http://www.GiveRichmond.org) and you will see that more than 80% of donations from corporations, individuals, foundations, churches and other local supporters goes directly to our programs to serve children and families.

**[Donate Now at www.GiveRichmond.org!](http://www.GiveRichmond.org)**

## Circle Preschool Teacher Receives Accolades for Book

Circle Preschool Program Early Childhood Education Specialist Denise Powers will be presenting at the NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) National Conference in November. Denise and her colleague have been invited to talk about their book coming out this summer: "Starting with their Strengths: Using the Project Approach in Early Childhood Special Education." The book has already received several positive reviews. One such accolade is below.

"This book captures the essence of development. It is a journey of discovery for the child and a guide to educators, therapists and families who want to tailor their interactions to each child's individual differences and strengths while providing the essential experiences that move development forward. The focus on establishing the foundations for learning is infused with respect, engagement and the promise every child holds." - Serena Wieder, Founder, Interdisciplinary Council on Developmental and Learning Disorders

## New Parenting Group Meets a Growing Need

SCAN's Family Support Program currently has 15 support and treatment groups for caregivers. The groups are designed to give at-risk caregivers the tools they need to improve their parenting skills and prevent them from harming their children.

While SCAN has several groups designed for specific caregiver populations, one such group is the most common and is designed for high-risk caregivers. There are eight groups that follow this 20-week curriculum. Caregivers who enroll in these groups have often been involved in some type of child abuse or neglect, been criminally charged by the court, or may be under investigation by Child Protective Services.

SCAN has decided to open a new group for this high-risk population because there are an increasing number of high-risk cases coming to SCAN for help. In addition, this group will be offered during the day to fill a gap in services for caregivers who don't work during the day.

Family Support Program Coordinator Melissa McGinn said that these high-risk parenting groups often are treatment and counseling focused. Most parents have histories with trauma themselves, she said. Living situations are very chaotic and quite a few caregivers have histories of domestic violence and substance abuse as well as other trauma history. The first ten weeks of the group are self reflective, Melissa said.

"We are examining what their experiences were like during childhood," she said. "We relate the trauma they had as children to how they connect and empathize with their children now. We are doing a lot of exploring of interpersonal issues."

The last few weeks of the group are psychoeducational and focus on coping skills, parenting advice, knowledge of child development, setting age-appropriate expectations for children and learning how to use resources in the community.

"That's our niche at SCAN," McGinn said "No one out there is working as intensively with those kinds of families."

"We have an understanding that these high-risk caregivers are starting at such a place where they have so many mountains to climb. We hope at the end of the group, they will stop and take a time out, take a breath before they react, be less likely to use physical discipline."

In addition, SCAN works throughout the 20 weeks with parents to link them to additional services such as CHIP, individual therapy and other services that will help them reach a level of stability, which will help them in their ability to be nurturing and supportive caregivers.

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

<b>Kathleen and Gerard Albanese</b>	<b>Sasha and Michael Hogan</b>
<b>Dottie Amore</b>	<b>Diane and Gene Hosenfeld</b>
<b>Trina and Roy Anise</b>	<b>Billy Hupp</b>
<b>Kelly and Tiffany Armstrong</b>	<b>Steve and Renee Hupp</b>
<b>Lindley and Coby Beck</b>	<b>Kari and Heath Hyman</b>
<b>Cathy and Howard Bos</b>	<b>Gail and Earl Johnson</b>
<b>Kathryn and Matt Brotherton</b>	<b>Kimberly and William Johnson</b>
<b>Carter and John Bryan</b>	<b>Carrie and Tommy Johnstone</b>
<b>Drs. Leemore and Alan Burke</b>	<b>Cindy and Michael Joyce</b>
<b>Daisy and Tom Byrd</b>	<b>Margaret and Jerry Keightley</b>
<b>Bob and Edie Cabaniss</b>	<b>Jen and John Kostyniuk</b>
<b>Jennifer and David Campbell</b>	<b>Amy and Byron Ladd</b>
<b>Jeff Chandler</b>	<b>Kathleen and Frank LaRosa</b>
<b>Andrea and Robert Clark</b>	<b>Elizabeth and Michael Martin</b>
<b>Kevin Collier</b>	<b>Cathy and Read McGehee</b>
<b>Nona and Bill Collin</b>	<b>Mindy and Massie Meredith</b>
<b>Rose and Josh Dare</b>	<b>Jasper Mersereau</b>
<b>Susan and Bob Dausch</b>	<b>Caroline and Marshall Morton</b>
<b>Dr. Trudy Rickman and Chuck Dean</b>	<b>Allie and Richard Oelhafen, Jr.</b>
<b>Carrie and Bob Delille</b>	<b>Jay Olander</b>
<b>Mark Dillon</b>	<b>Dorothy and Stan Pauley</b>
<b>Teresa DiMarco</b>	<b>Scottie and George Phillips</b>
<b>Paul Edmunds</b>	<b>Kevin Purnell</b>
<b>Lawrence Eiben</b>	<b>Kathleen and Bob Redmond</b>
<b>Anne Marie and Scott Elles</b>	<b>Anne and David Schlusler</b>
<b>Jean and Rob Estes</b>	<b>Michael Sieja</b>
<b>Dena Frith and Chris Moore</b>	<b>Dorinda Smith</b>
<b>Betsy and Bobby Fauntleroy</b>	<b>Syral Specter</b>
<b>Dana and Gray Garland</b>	<b>Martha and Bobby Speight</b>
<b>Trish Garland</b>	<b>Charlie Stallings</b>
<b>William Ginther</b>	<b>Lucinda and John Stanchina</b>
<b>Katherine Godin</b>	<b>Judith Strickler</b>
<b>Bruce Gottwald, Jr.</b>	<b>Eric Sundberg</b>
<b>Mary Anne Graf</b>	<b>Letty and Bill Tate</b>
<b>Martha and John Grover</b>	<b>Margaretha and Jose Valderas</b>
<b>Cindy and George Harrison</b>	<b>Stephanie and Brad Welles</b>
<b>Marsha and Michael Hawkins</b>	

## Stopping Abuse Before it Happens

SCAN's Families are Magic (FAM) program is focused on the prevention of child abuse and neglect in our community. By educating the public about the issue of child abuse and neglect and empowering people with tools for prevention, we believe we can stop children from being hurt before it happens. We do this because one child who is hurt is one too many, but we also know that the long-term effects of abuse hurt children long after their abuse occurs.

A recent study published in the Cambridge University Press Online Journal, *Development and Psychopathology* has documented these long-term impacts. The study is called "The impact of sexual abuse on female development: Lessons from a multigenerational, longitudinal research study" and was conducted over 23 years.

Researchers found that abused females are more likely to harm themselves: "[a]bused females reported almost four times as many incidences of self-inflicted harm and suicidality ... and 20% more subsequent, significant lifetime traumas.. than did comparison females." In addition, they are also more likely to abuse their own children. The children of the sexually abused females "were significantly more likely to have been involved with CPS than were comparison offspring," and most of this involvement was related to neglect because of drug or alcohol use by the mother.

What's more are the mental and physical effects. The study found that "sexually abused females, on average, acquired receptive language skills at a significantly slower rate...during development than did comparison females... On average, the comparison group reported some college education, whereas the abused group reported graduating high school as their highest achievement." The physical impacts of sexual abuse are shown in the rates of obesity, which are significantly higher for sexually abused females when compared to the population in general. Obesity is related to a number of other chronic illnesses such as diabetes.

Moreover, the study offers concrete evidence for the proposition that sexual abuse should be treated as a public health issue, with the attendant public health intervention initiatives - both for the acts of abuse themselves, and also for the long-term effects, ranging from risky sexual behaviors to obesity.

How can you help? Join the Movement by taking a Stewards of Children child sexual abuse prevention training session. Our next Stewards training date is July 21. Contact Denise Noble to sign up: [dnooble@grscan.com](mailto:dnooble@grscan.com). Learn more about the training at [www.d2i.org](http://www.d2i.org).

## CASA Volunteer Shannon Pursell

CASA volunteer Shannon Pursell was sworn in as a volunteer in April 2010. She is 15 months into her first case, which involves five children who are in three different foster care placements. Her hands are full keeping track of each of the children, their foster parents, their family members, social workers and schools. She works with these parties to gain a full perspective of what would be best for each child and also to encourage collaboration between different parties so they are better able to work together with the children in mind.

Shannon, who is an active military member, said the decision was easy for her when she was looking for a fulfilling volunteer opportunity to help children.

"My parents took in foster kids when I was growing up," Shannon said. "My dad was actually a CASA in Michigan, and he told me about it, so I found the local program and when I talked with Jana, I was ready to sign up that same day."

Training started quickly for Shannon. She said it was very in-depth and it also was overwhelming when she first started. The intensity of the training was appropriate though, she said, and it prepared her for her current case. She was particularly impacted by the presentation of the police officer who came during training to talk about security and situational awareness, a topic she was familiar with but had never thought about it as it would relate to children. Also, presentations from the pediatric unit at MCV were very informative, and though they were unsettling, the knowledge she learned about how and where to look for signs of child abuse has already come into play as she helps her CASA children.

Though the training prepared her, she said, every case is different and the Case Managers are invaluable. Shannon said: "Andrea is very good at explaining things along the way and helping to do additional training."



**"Those kids always amaze me about how resilient they are. You think you've had a bad day and when you hear their stories and they are so little, I can't compare my bad days with theirs."**