

SCAN-IT

Volume 27
January 2013

“How Children Succeed”: What We Can Learn

Paul Tough has written many articles and books covering the topics of character and childhood. In his most recent book “How Children Succeed,” Tough uses the tools of science to peel back the mysteries of character, which link childhood stress to life success. He believes that early adversity not only affects the conditions of children’s lives, but it can also alter the physical development of their brains.

At SCAN, Tough’s beliefs are evident in all of our five programs. We work every day with children who have had traumatic experiences related to abuse, neglect and exposure to domestic violence. We help them heal and set them up for future success in a number of ways.

For example, in the Circle Preschool Program, our highly trained staff members offer intensive mental health treatment and early childhood education. In the classroom, they apply “interventions intended to help children learn a different kind of skill: controlling their impulses, staying focused on the task at hand, avoiding distractions and mental traps, managing their emotions, organizing their thoughts,” as Tough writes.

“What matters most in a child’s development, they say, is not how much information we can stuff into their brain in the first few years,” writes Tough. “What matters, instead, is whether we are able to help her develop a very different set of qualities, a list that includes persistence, self-control, curiosity, conscientiousness, grit, and self-confidence.”

Outside of the classroom, SCAN knows that the best way to reach children and encourage character development is to work with caregivers. For example, Family Support Program facilitators hold treatment and education groups that empower parents to improve the way they nurture their children. The groups help enhance parenting skills, build social networks, increase knowledge of child development, and connect parents to valuable community resources.

“High-quality mothering... can act as a powerful buffer against the damage that adversity inflicts on a child’s stress response system,” Tough writes.

Tough explains that when organizations such as SCAN support families and children impacted by abuse and neglect, children are less likely to suffer from the long-term impacts of abuse and neglect as they become adults. As Tough writes, children who have adverse childhood experiences are “twice as likely to smoke, seven times more likely to be alcoholics, seven times more likely to have had sex before age 15, twice as likely to be diagnosed with cancer, twice as likely to have heart disease, twice as likely to have liver disease, four times more likely to suffer from emphysema or chronic bronchitis.”

These long-term results of child abuse and neglect have an impact on society as a whole as victims become less productive and continue cycles of traumatic childhood experiences. When SCAN is able to break the cycle of abuse and neglect, we can prevent these negative outcomes from impacting the individuals and our community at large.

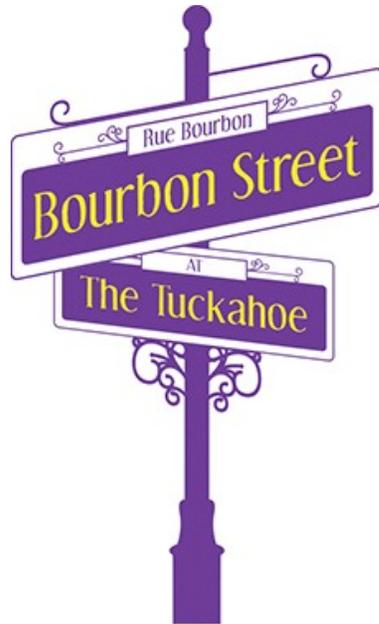
If you are interested in supporting the Circle Preschool Program, contact Megan at msouthall@grscan.com to learn more.

Bourbon Street at the Tuckahoe

February 9, 2013
Tuckahoe Woman's
Club
8 p.m. to midnight

Dance to the music of the Adrian Duke Project. Watch live entertainment from the RVA Hoop House. Enjoy dinner and an open bar featuring a fantastic top-shelf bourbon selection, hurricanes, wine tastings and more.

Get your tickets now for this Mardi Gras event at www.grscan.com.



Volunteer

Are you interested in supporting SCAN as a volunteer? We need help in our office, during special events and helping the children and families we serve. Visit <http://grscan.com/get-involved/volunteer/> to learn more!

Learn More First Hand

Are you interested in getting a first-hand look at SCAN's work? Visit the Child Advocacy Center to take a tour and learn about all of SCAN's programs. They are held on the first and third Friday's of each month at 11:30 a.m. and last about an hour. To sign up for a tour, email Megan at msouthall@grscan.com today!



5th Annual Race to Protect Children

April 6, 2013
West Broad Village in Short Pump

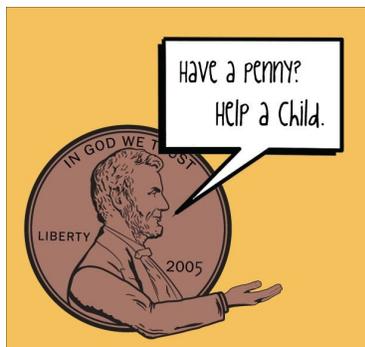
Help us kick off National Child Abuse Prevention Month!

8:30 a.m. Kids Run
9:00 a.m. Children's Festival
9:00 a.m. 5k Run
9:05 a.m. 5k Walk

\$20 for adults until Feb. 15
\$25 for adults until March 6
\$30 for adults until race day
\$10 for kids until race day

Start a team, fundraise and register at www.grscan.com.

Abes for Babes



Keep the Lincoln fever going in Richmond! SCAN will be kicking off the "Abes for Babes" campaign on February 1st. This annual grassroots campaign is focused on engaging the community in the fight against child abuse and neglect based on the simple concept: "Have a penny? Help a child." SCAN chose February to honor Abraham Lincoln's birthday. If you have children who want to get their schools involved, this campaign can involve friendly competition and counting pennies! If you want flyers and jars to collect change, contact Megan at msouthall@grscan.com.

Save the Date

**Windsor Farms
Progressive
Dinner & Auction**

April 20, 2013

Tuckahoe Woman's Club

Thank you!

Thank you to the **Robins Foundation** who recently awarded SCAN with a grant to support the **Richmond CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)** Program.

Thank you to the **Memorial Foundation for Children** who recently awarded SCAN with a grant to support the **Child Advocacy Center**.

Thank you Protector's Circle Members

Ruth and Franco Ambrogi	Margaret and Jerry Keightley
Trina and Roy Anise	Jen and John Kostyniuk
Toni Ardabell	Debra Krey
Kelly and Tiffany Armstrong	Benjamin Ladd
Lindley and Coby Beck	Amy and Byron Ladd
Cathy and Howard Bos	Juliet and Mark Levin
Kathryn and Matt Brotherton	Kat and Mike Liebschwager
Ellen and Orran Brown	Tehshau Luan
Carter and John Bryan	Elizabeth and Michael Martin
Wendy and Wadford Bugg	Cathy and Read McGehee
Daisy and Tom Byrd	Jasper Mersereau
Edie and Bob Cabaniss	Lynn Mussatt
James Cabaniss	Allie and Richard Oelhafen, Jr.
Jennifer and David Campbell	Jay Olander
Jeff Chandler	Linda and Larry Paige
Andrea and Robert Clark	Shelton Panak
Kevin Collier	Ann Marie and Bryan Petrucelli
Rose and Josh Dare	Scottie and George Phillips
Susan and Bob Dausch	Kelly Pickerel
Trudy Rickman and Chuck Dean	Kevin Purnell
Carrie and Bob Delille	Thomas Rankin
Paul Edmunds	Leslie and Winston Read
Anne Marie and Scott Elles	Kathleen and Bob Redmond
Samira Fazel	Cynthia Schmitz
Audrey and David Franks	Janet and Lee Showalter
Dena Frith and Chris Moore	Michael Sieja
Dana and Gray Garland	Dorinda Smith
Bruce Gottwald, Jr.	Martha and Bobby Speight
Mary Anne Graf	Jeanne and Stallings
Martha and John Grover	Lucinda and John Stanchina
Betsy and Frank Harris	Mary and Wally Stettinius
Cindy and George Harrison	Laura and Patrick Strickler
Hilary and Brett Hawkins	Eric Sundberg
Marsha and Michael Hawkins	Letty and Bill Tate
Diane and Gene Hosenfeld	John Turner
Diane and Billy Hupp	Margaretha and Jose Valderas
Renee and Stephen Hupp	Janet and Mark Walker
Kari and Heath Hyman	Elizabeth Scott Warren
Kimberly and William Johnson	Laura and Steve Wilson
Gail and Reginald Johnson	Stephanie and Brad Welles
Carrie and Tommy Johnstone	
Cindy and Michael Joyce	

Board of Directors Member Brett Hawkins

“From my standpoint, there are a couple of things that make me interested in SCAN’s mission,” Brett Hawkins said. “Firstly, as a parent, I am very interested in the well-being of children, knowing that they cannot be their own advocates and many need someone to speak up for them.”

Brett has been a long-time supporter of SCAN. The enthusiasm of SCAN’s leaders impressed him and compelled him to take the next step in making a difference in his community. Brett joined the Board of Directors in November 2012.

“There is so much evidence that what happens when we are children affects what we do as adults,” Brett said. “It influences the entire future, especially related to abuse because we know it’s cyclical.”

Brett said he’s looking forward to learning more about SCAN’s broad reaching work. He looks forward to playing an active role in preventing child abuse and neglect and also supporting the work SCAN does to help children who have been abused.

“I think anything I can do to increase the awareness of the organization will help from a financial standpoint,” he said. “I also look forward to getting people to volunteer and see things first hand so they can learn about the work that SCAN does and the lives they touch.”

Brett is originally from Louisville, Kentucky. He went to school at the University of Richmond and the University of Virginia. He settled in Richmond after meeting his wife from Chesterfield. Brett works for Thompson, Siegel & Walmsley as an investment manager. SCAN is very fortunate to have him join our team!

Learn more about SCAN’s Board of Directors at www.grscan.com.



Case Manager Briana Valentino Joins the Child Advocacy Center



Briana Valentino has a long history advocating for the needs of children and families. She joined the Child Advocacy Center staff this January as a Case Manager and Family Advocate.

Briana was most recently a Client Services Specialist for Children for the YWCA’s Domestic and Sexual Violence Support Programs. Prior to that, Briana was the Coordinator for Youth and Children’s Services at Domestic Violence/ Abuse Services in Loudoun County.

“I’m most excited about learning how the process works to protect children,” Briana said about joining the SCAN Child Advocacy Center. “I’m also looking forward to being a part of the process of having perpetrators being held accountable while making the child feel as comfortable as possible during the process.”

In Loudoun County, Briana was active in the local Child Advocacy Center’s Multidisciplinary Team. Additionally, she completed intensive training in child forensic interviewing at the National Child Advocacy Center in 2009. SCAN is fortunate to have Briana join our team because of her experience in direct services, administration, case management and advocacy.

“I think having worked a lot with parents, I understand the difficulties that parents face,” Briana said. “I understand how child sexual abuse or physical abuse can compound everything that has already been difficult for parents and therefore I can better help parents make the situation for them and their children better.”

Learn more about SCAN’s Child Advocacy Center at www.grscan.com.