



2014-2015 Annual Report

Youth Matter in Colonial Heights

OFFICE ON YOUTH & HUMAN SERVICES

***OFFICE ON YOUTH
&
HUMAN SERVICES***
201 James Avenue
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Colonial Heights VA
804-520-9286





Office on Youth & Human Services

August 1, 2015

Honorable T. Gregory Kochuba
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Colonial Heights
P O Box 3401
Colonial Heights VA 23834

Dear Mayor Kochuba & Members of Council:

The 2014-2015 Annual Report for the Office on Youth & Human Services details the continued support and differences the office makes in the lives of youth and families in Colonial Heights. I proudly present this year's report to City Council.

The Office on Youth, Youth Services Commission, and the Youth Advisory Council appreciate your continued support of our programming. We value your commitment and advocacy for youth and families in our community.

Sincerely,

Rennie Glazer

Youth Services Commission Chair

OFFICE ON YOUTH

STAFF

Eileen Brown
MSW, LCSW
Director

Becca Lynch
Youth Program
Coordinator

Abby Lynch
Youth Specialist

Sunni Guillot
Youth Specialist

LaToya Harrington
Youth Workforce
Specialist



MISSION STATEMENT

The Office on Youth and Human Services serves Colonial Heights' citizens by working to develop and improve community assets which assist families in raising healthy children.

The Office on Youth and Human Services partners, collaborates, and supports the work of City groups and organizations.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Office on Youth serves as a community partner with other organizations to meet youth and family needs. In this role, the Office on Youth is active in several local and regional efforts.

- ⇒ Children's Services Act Program (FAPT & CPMT)
- ⇒ Colonial Heights Public Schools
- ⇒ Adult & Juvenile Drug Court
- ⇒ Community Criminal Justice Board
- ⇒ Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation
- ⇒ Twelfth District Court Service Unit
- ⇒ Families First Program
- ⇒ Colonial Heights Fire Department
- ⇒ Juvenile & Domestic Violence Task Force
- ⇒ Partnership for Youth
- ⇒ CARES (Crisis Assistance Response Emergency Shelter) Board
- ⇒ Community Coalitions of Virginia & S.A.F.E.
- ⇒ Positive Parenting Coalition
- ⇒ Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act
- ⇒ District 19 Community Services Board
- ⇒ Interagency Prevention Team
- ⇒ Colonial Heights CADRE Coalition
- ⇒ Evidence Based Decision-Making Team
- ⇒ CAAN-DUU Coalition
- ⇒ Smart Beginnings/School Readiness Coalition

YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

Rennie Glazer - Chairman

Doug Harris - Vice Chair

Margie Strum - Secretary

David Whiting

Megan McLaughlin - Rec & Parks

Sgt. Robert Ruxer - CHPD

Ryan Blair Martin

Chris Underwood

Sandra Coleman - School Board

Greg Kochuba - City Council

Bland Campbell - YAC Rep

Dorothy Vincent - YAC Rep

Hank Rosser - YAC President

Nicholas Thomason - Youth Rep



YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Hank Rosser - President

Tiffany Kong - 1st Vice President

Bryan Madl- 2nd Vice President

Tamara Bowen - Secretary

Austin Ouelette- Historian

Nicholas Thomason—YSC Rep

Ava Adenauer

Riley Adenauer

Sarah Bracewell

Sam Clarke

Adrienne Dew

Aaron Ezell

Jacob Ezell

Kendel Fox

Savanna Fox

Linwood Fraher

Andrew Gunder

Savannah Haley

Preston Hicks-Holmes

Erin Hood

Sydney Jackson

Donna Jarratt

Braden Johnson

Caroline Kinder

Christian Knight

Madison Kolev

Bryanna Neece

Claudia Osei-Asante

Katie Peterson

Angelica Primmer

Bailey Rivero

Ashleigh Rush

Nojan Sheybani

Tess Shortell

Pritesh Singh

Barrett Smith

Maria Elena Smith

Joey Upadhyay

McKenzie Vrooman

Alicia Winnie

Stephen Zaruba

Abby Lynch - Advisor

*Helping change
our world,
one step
at a time!*

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

Information & Referral - The Office on Youth & Human Services provides information on youth related issues and services. Information is available in our Resource Directory on the City's web page.

Planning & Program Development - The Office on Youth & Human Services works with community organizations, groups, and agencies to develop resources and services for youth and families.

Public Information - Staff are available to speak to community groups and civic organizations on a variety of topics related to youth and family functioning.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Staff accrued over 425 hours of continuing education and professional development on topics including learning through play and school readiness for early childhood education, trauma-informed care, active parenting strategies and positive parenting, mental health first aid, after school programming, leadership development, child abuse prevention, play therapy, medical triage, motivational interviewing, suicide intervention and prevention, adolescent substance abuse, ethical and evidence based decision making, economic development, ASIST and safe-TALK Training for Trainers, emergency management and response, workforce development, and "Trauma, Addiction, Mental Health, and Recovery" training.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2014-2015

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

- ⇒ YAC members completed over 525 hours of service in our community
- ⇒ Participated in City Wide Clean Up
- ⇒ Awarded "Coleman Voice of Youth" scholarships to Angelica Primmer and Bailey Rivero
- ⇒ Provided Christmas gifts and food for two families through the CARE Shelter
- ⇒ Participated in the CHHS Volunteer-a-thon making no-sew fleece blankets and cards for patients at McGuire Veterans Hospital
- ⇒ Supported pediatric cancer research with a virtual and physical Lemon-Aid Stand
- ⇒ Participated in the Colonial Heights Christmas Parade
- ⇒ Fed Tri-Cities Work Camp crew
- ⇒ Adopted James Avenue and Roslyn Road for street clean up
- ⇒ Partnered with the CADRE Coalition on Project Sticker Shock
- ⇒ Made no-sew fleece blankets for the CARE Shelter with Swift Creek Woman's Club
- ⇒ Volunteered for Back-to-School Festival
- ⇒ Sang Christmas Carols and assisted with Valentine's Day party for Dunlop House residents
- ⇒ Sent Valentine, Veteran's Day, and Christmas Cards to McGuire Hospital veterans
- ⇒ "Happy Graduation Wishes" to Angelica, Bailey, Stephen, and Linwood



Leadership

Volunteerism

Activities

Education

Community Outreach

YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

- ⇒ Supported and assisted Youth Advisory Council with projects and activities
- ⇒ Supported activities at Pete's Place (Teen Center)
- ⇒ Advocated for youth and families in Colonial Heights

JUVENILE & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TASK FORCE

- ⇒ Supported Regional Task Force efforts to prevent domestic violence, and provide services and resources for victims
- ⇒ Supported efforts to promote and provide trainings for advocates and professionals to better serve victims of domestic abuse

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL SHOE FUND

- ⇒ Received referrals for twenty seven shoe vouchers for the purchase of a new pair of shoes during the school year
- ⇒ Received \$1,200 in donations to support shoe fund from local civic organizations: Blue Knights Motorcycle Club, Kiwanis Club, Swift Creek Woman's Club, American Legion Post 284, Women of the Moose, Moose Lodge, and Optimists Club

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION INITIATIVE

- ⇒ City Council continued to support teen pregnancy prevention initiatives
- ⇒ Pregnancy rates for Colonial Heights teens under 15 to 19 years old continued to show a decrease from 2006 to 2013 of 54%

COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES ACT

- ⇒ Served 22 youth and their families with a variety of services including community-based services, therapeutic foster care, respite services, day school programs, and residential treatment
- ⇒ DJJ = 5% of cases; Education = 59% of cases; and DSS = 36% of cases
- ⇒ CSA expenditures for FY2014 were \$688,631

INTERAGENCY PREVENTION TEAM

- ⇒ Multi-disciplinary team served 16 students and their families
- ⇒ Referred by teachers, guidance counselors, attendance officer, team members, or parents
- ⇒ Made recommendations for at-risk youth to enhance opportunities for success at home and in the community
- ⇒ Provided community staffing of cases, as needed, to better meet the needs of youth and families





“Youth programs encourage accountability, improves self-esteem, fosters citizenship, and responsibility, and instills a sense of community pride.”

VIRGINIA JUVENILE COMMUNITY CRIME CONTROL ACT

Community-based programs funded by state and local government to divert youth from the courts, and provide sanctions, education, and services to prevent repeat offending.

SHOPLIFTING DIVERSION PROGRAM

- ⇒ Educational program to inform teens and parent of the consequences of shoplifting
- ⇒ Program served 222 youth and their families

SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM

- ⇒ Served 60 youth to complete community service hours
- ⇒ Completed 1333 hours of community service

CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

- ⇒ Served 7 teens and families with case management services and support
- ⇒ Program provided youth/family assessments, and community based referrals to coordinated services in the community, schools, courts, etc.

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

P.O.W.E.R. PROGRAM

POWER (Promoting Outstanding Work Ethics and Responsibilities) Is a program that is funded through the Workforce Investment Act that supports at-risk youth who may have barriers to obtaining employment and/or enrolling in post-secondary education.

- ⇒ Program Elements included tutoring/instruction/study skills training, alternate school/GED, mentoring, leadership development, paid/unpaid work experience, summer employment, occupational skills training, comprehensive guidance/counseling, support services, and follow-up
- ⇒ Six participants received case management services
- ⇒ Community Partners for employment placements included Colonial Heights Public Schools, and Recreation and Parks
- ⇒ Swift Creek Mill Playhouse accepted volunteer applications

COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

- ⇒ Social Services provided funds for child care provider training to increase quality, availability, and affordability of care for children (Child Care Quality Initiative) . In January 2015, the office hosted “Let Them Play, Watch Them Learn” workshop for 83 child care providers from the Tri-Cities area. In May 2015, the office hosted “Building a Prevention Strategy” workshop for 86 child care providers.
- ⇒ Presented Shoplifting Diversion Program to 240 CHMS students in 6th grade
- ⇒ Provided 281 hours of supervised community service for 17 teens
- ⇒ Shared “Open Arms? Open Eyes!” about healthy relationships with 208 CHMS students in 8th grade
- ⇒ Presented Career Day information to 57 CHMS students and 300 North Elementary students
- ⇒ Shared resources and services with 21 parents and teens at 6th Grade “Dream Team” meeting
- ⇒ Provided Safe Driving Materials to 136 teens receiving driver’s licenses in Juvenile Court
- ⇒ Assisted Colonial Heights Schools with the “Poverty Simulation” facilitated by DSS, and the “Little Feet Meet” sponsored by the Office of Support Services
- ⇒ Attended YOVASO (Youth of Virginia Speak Out) Leadership Conference with CHHS sponsor and four teens at James Madison University
- ⇒ Staff facilitated goLEAD Institute from generationON for 11 teens, team completed three projects
- ⇒ Worked with Bill and Monika Carter and “The Defenders: Bully Patrol” to promote bullying prevention

KIDS’ AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

- ⇒ Referral program for youth in Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grades based on need for academic support, enhancement of social skills, promotion of positive behavior, increase in physical activity
- ⇒ Served 83 youth from Tussing, North, and Lakeview Elementary Schools, and Colonial Heights Middle School
- ⇒ Provided 4828 hours of mentoring and tutoring by 112 volunteers from John Tyler Community College, Richard Bland College, Virginia State University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Colonial Heights High School, and Matoaca High School
- ⇒ Program coordinator provided 56 hours of Volunteer Training, and 25 hours of Staff Training
- ⇒ Completed service projects of 10 no-sew fleece blankets for CARES, and cards for McGuire Veterans
- ⇒ Enjoyed trips to Swader’s, The Bowling Alley, Jumpology, and SkyZone
- ⇒ Special Program included: “Kids Helping Kids” at North and Lakeview Elementary Schools

YOUTH SERVICE CORPS PROGRAM

- ⇒ Partnered with Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Chesterfield Adolescent Reporting Program on Youth Service Corps Program
- ⇒ 9 teens and 3 supervisors completed the three week program at Pocahontas State Park, and all earned a stipend at the end of the program

CADRE COALITION

- ⇒ Supported Colonial Heights High School CADRE participation in Project Sticker Shock
- ⇒ Held monthly meetings of adult coalition
- ⇒ Encouraged YADAPP (Youth Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project) Team to complete STAN Plan which was created at the summer conference at Longwood University
- ⇒ Attended presentation by motivational speaker, Bobby Petrocelli, sponsored by CHHS CADRE/YADAPP



PHOTO GALLERY



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
POWER Program



KAP
Kids' After-School Program



POCAHONTAS STATE PARK
Youth Service Corps



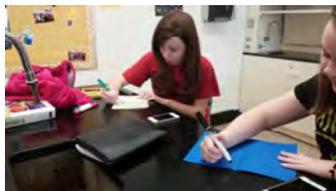
YOVASO
Leadership Conference



VOLUNTEER-A-THON
YAC Event



TRI-CITIES WORKCAMP
YAC provided lunches



goLEAD INSTITUTE
2014 Leadership Team



ANTHEM LEMON-AID STAND
Fundraiser for pediatric cancer research

PROJECT STICKER SHOCK
CHHS CADRE



ADOPT-A-STREET
James Avenue & Roslyn Road



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