

Volunteering with the Children, Youth and Family Division of Fairfax County's Department of Family Services and its community partners

| Volunteer Opportunity | Volunteer Activity | Services For / Time Commitment | Training Provided | Contact Information |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| Mentoring | | | | |
| BeFriend-A-Child | Provide companionship, support and guidance to children who are at risk of being abused or neglected or who would benefit from a positive mentoring relationship with an adult. | Children 5-12 years old 1 year minimum for at least 8 hours per month | 1 day on the weekend or 2 weekday evenings | 703-324-7874 TTY 703-222-9452 chuck.berlin@fairfaxcounty.gov |
| BeFriend-A-Parent | Listen, learn, build a trusting relationship and work with a parent to address personal needs and parenting skills. | Adults 6-month minimum for at least 4-6 hours per month | 1 day on the weekend or 2 weekday evenings | 703-324-7871 TTY 703-222-9452 laurie.eytel@fairfaxcounty.gov |
| BeFriend-A-Teen | Encourage and support a teen by being a positive role model and help the teen develop independent living skills. | Teens preparing to leave the foster care program 1 year minimum for at least 8 hours per month | 13 hours (over 2 evenings and a Saturday) | 703-324-7726 TTY 703-222-9452 sandra.milazzo@fairfaxcounty.gov |
| Mentoring | Mentor a child in foster care. The program's goal is to find permanent homes for the children. | Children in foster care 2 years with a minimum of 4 hours every other weekend | 4-hour group session; individual training; social worker home visits | 703-324-7518 TTY 703-222-9452 beverly.howard@fairfaxcounty.gov |
| Group-Based Education | | | | |
| Good-Touch/ Bad-Touch Program® | Assist in teaching a curriculum that gives children skills to help prevent or interrupt child abuse/sexual abuse in their lives. Children learn what abuse is and receive prevention skills, including personal body safety rules. | Parents and children - preschoolers to 6th grade 2 classes; 8 hours total | 3 1/2 days (on weekdays) | 703-324-7459 TTY 703-222-9452 tsehay.elias@fairfaxcounty.gov |
| Nurturing Parenting Program® | Facilitate classes for parents or children or provide child care for children under age 5. Parents and older children gain awareness and learn skills needed for healthy, positive interactions. | Parents and children enrolled in weekday evening classes Facilitate at least one series of classes | 1 1/2 days (one week night and a Saturday) | 703-324-7871 TTY 703-222-9452 laurie.eytel@fairfaxcounty.gov |
| Foster Care / Advocacy | | | | |
| Foster Care | Become a foster parent and provide support and care for children in foster care. Support, training and a monthly stipend for the child's expenses are provided. | Children in foster care Ongoing | Extensive and ongoing | 703-324-7476 TTY 703-222-9452 claudia.mcdowell@fairfaxcounty.gov |
| Advocacy | Become a host family or advocate for a child in foster care. The program's goal is to find permanent homes for these children. | Children in foster care 3 months; minimum of every other weekend (overnight) | 12 hours, includes social worker home visits | 703-324-7518 TTY 703-222-9452 beverly.howard@fairfaxcounty.gov |
| Other DFS Volunteer Opportunities | | | | |
| Clerical Support to DFS Staff | Provide administrative and clerical support to DFS staff on as-needed basis. | DFS staff Varies | Varies | 703-324-7871 TTY 703-222-9452 laurie.eytel@fairfaxcounty.gov |
| Family Resource Centers | Help with community events, child care, administrative and other tasks at neighborhood-based "drop-in" centers offering on-site programs and classes tailored to the needs of families in each community (Falls Church, Lorton and Springfield areas). | Families Varies, depending on the nature of the help provided | Varies, depending on the volunteer position filled | 703-324-7871 TTY 703-222-9452 laurie.eytel@fairfaxcounty.gov |
| Volunteer Opportunities with Our Community Partners | | | | |
| Court Appointed Special Advocate | Support children in court who have been abused or neglected. Work closely with social workers, attorneys, treatment providers, and others involved in helping the child. | Children ages birth to 18 1 year minimum; usually several hours a week | 32 hours basic training; 12 hours a year mandatory in-service training | 703-273-3526 711 Virginia Relay Christie Nix |
| Volunteer Emergency Families for Children | Provide short-term emergency and respite care for children in crisis by providing a temporary home and shelter. | Children of all ages Overnight, or up to 21 days as needed | 12 hours, plus in-service trainings | 703-324-7819 TTY 703-324-9452 Sandy Robinson |

Benefits for volunteers include:

- A variety of opportunities – both short- and long-term – throughout Fairfax County.
- Ongoing training and support.
- Materials and supplies to perform your volunteer tasks.
- Support and guidance from the DFS volunteer manager and staff.
- Free volunteer liability and accident insurance coverage.
- For some programs, monthly social activities with other volunteers.
- The chance to join Fairfax County's Federal Credit Union.
- *Volunteer Connections*, our volunteer newsletter.

Become a positive force for change in your community by volunteering with us! Choose a program that fits your schedule:

Mentoring

- BeFriend-A-Child
- BeFriend-A-Parent
- BeFriend-A-Teen
- Kidsave Mentoring

Group-Based Education

- Good-Touch/Bad-Touch Program®
- Nurturing Parenting Program®

Foster Care/Advocacy

- Foster Care
- Kidsave Fairfax Weekend Miracles

Other DFS Volunteer Opportunities

- Clerical Support to DFS Staff
- Family Resource Centers

Volunteer Opportunities with Our Community Partners

- Court Appointed Special Advocate
- Volunteer Emergency Families for Children

For more information about the above volunteer opportunities, please see the chart on the inside of this brochure.

- Volunteers must be at least 21 years old (for most programs).
- Screening background checks and interviews are required for most programs.



Fairfax County Department of Family Services
Children, Youth and Family Division
Volunteer Services
12011 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, Virginia 22035
703-324-7871; TTY 703-222-9452
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs



Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request this information in an alternate format, please call 703-324-5870; TTY 703-222-9452.

Fairfax County
Department of Family Services

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Become a positive force for change in your community by volunteering with the Department of Family Services Children, Youth and Family Division.

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/about/volops.htm