

# Volunteer Connections

for Children, Youth & Families Division Volunteers



:: March 2012 :: Issue 1 ::

## Some Interesting Statistics on The Nurturing Parenting Program®



### **NURTURING PARENT PROGRAM® :**

Between October and December 2011, we served 164 families and 185 children in 17 groups. During the same period last year, 199 families and 237 children in 19 groups were served. A total of 215 families and 246 children enrolled in this program since Feb 2011.

The numbers decreased due to a decision to limit the size of the parenting groups to no more than 12 families per group. We had previously enrolled as many as 17 families in some groups. It was assessed that this may have had a negative impact on the pre and post-test scores.

### **Performance Measure:**

Percentage of parents completing the AAPI-2 pre and post-tests during the report period who demonstrate improved parenting and child rearing attitudes as measured by an average individual, increased by  $>.29$  across the five AAPI-2 constructs. Goal: 90%, Actual: 87%.

**This is up from 79% during the first quarter.**

<b>Group Types:</b>	<b>No. of Groups (Oct-Dec 2011)</b>
<b>0-4 Parents and Children</b>	2 (of which 1 is in Spanish)
<b>0-4 AA Parents and Children</b>	1
<b>5-11 Parents and Children</b>	8 (of which 3 are in Spanish)
<b>5-11 AA Parents and Children</b>	0
<b>Parents and Adolescents</b>	2
<b>Teen Parents</b>	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>

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## Volunteer Spotlight (& Farewell) - Rick Nehrbooss — Who Is This Man and Where Is He Going?

Rick Nehrbooss has been a volunteer with the Parenting Education Programs since 2000. He facilitated well over 20 groups – contributing more than 600 hours. Almost as long, he has been an active mentor with the BeFriend-A-Child Mentoring Program. Through those years, he mentored three boys, one of whom is now 20-years-old and is currently mentoring two brothers. Rick still finds the time to devote to all three boys he mentored.

Rick and his wife will be moving to Qatar, an independent emirate on the Persian Gulf, in support of Beth's job posting for the next few years. He plans to keep up his contact with the boys he mentored over the years. He says one of the boys will be visiting him soon after they move to Qatar.

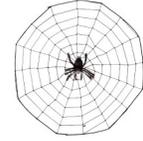
Over the years, Rick has given his time freely and unselfishly to the children. His compassion and connections with them is seen time and time again in the friendships, smiles and positive attitudes of the children. They *know* he is someone who genuinely cares.

Although he will be in a country very different than ours with different resources available to him, we know he will still be involved. His love of boating and scuba diving might not be as easy to pursue in Qatar, but knowing Rick, he will find a way. Along with his other outdoor hobbies such as golf and camping, he is looking forward to dune busting! Whatever he decides, not only will he enjoy it, but you can count on him to find a way to give back to the local community there as much as he contributed to our programs.

Rick, we eagerly await your return in a few years! You have been like family to us, and we wish you and Beth a wonderful new chapter in your move to Qatar. You will be missed...



## Interesting Web Sites



[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library)

Looking for a good book to read during the cold winter months? Check out the county library's website. You can search the library catalog, access best seller lists, and learn about services and programs the library offers. If you don't have a library card, you can apply for one on the website and have it mailed to your home.

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes)

Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services. Here you will find information about subjects such as snow removal, streetlight and traffic light maintenance, trash and recycling facility locations, and emergency preparedness.

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animal/adoption.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animal/adoption.htm)

Thinking about adopting a pet from the shelter? You can find information here about how to do so. You can also link to a webpage with pictures and descriptions of animals currently available for adoption, including cats, dogs, rabbits, hamsters, and guinea pigs.



**I am only one person, but I have two hands with which to do many good things.** — Leigh Giza, Assistant Editor

### Please Note:

We are promoting environmentally friendly and cost saving measures by sending items electronically. However, if you prefer phone communication or United States mail instead of e-mail, please let Laurie know at 703-324-7871, TTY 703-222-9452.

Thank you!

## Farewell to Kelsie Lanier-Carter

Kelsie Lanier-Carter was introduced in the last newsletter. Her focus has been the development and implementation of the African American Culture Parenting classes with the Parenting Education Programs. We recently learned that her husband, who is with the military, has been called to serve his country for two years at a United States military base in Japan.

While this presents a wonderful life experience for Kelsie, her husband and their young daughter, her sincerity, caring attitude, team spirit, expertise and sunny countenance will be deeply missed. She also expressed that she has been touched in a positive way by her involvement with the program, families and staff, and will miss it.

Kelsie, that sentiment goes both ways. All the best to you and your family in this new chapter in your life.



## Farewell to Susan Rice

Susan Rice, who has been with the Parenting Education Programs since 2010, had to bid us farewell last fall as she and her husband moved to North Carolina. Susan worked with the 0-4 age group of the Parenting Education Programs. She shared her wealth of knowledge on how to educate during the developmental levels of this age group. She was an expert communicator, and it showed in her sincere caring and support not only to the participants, but also with staff and volunteers.

Susan will be missed, and we only ask that she send some warm Carolina breezes our way during the long cold days of winter.



## Snapshot of Children in Foster Care in Virginia - Data as of 10/1/2011

**Statistics about foster care in Virginia were released in October 2011. Here are some facts you might find interesting:**

-A total of **5,554** children were in foster care. **52 percent** of them were male and **48 percent** were female. More than **25 percent** of those in foster care were between the ages of 16 and 18.

-The most common reason for a child to be removed from his or her home was neglect. The second most common reason was a behavior problem on the part of the child.

-**60 percent** of foster care recipients went to non-relative foster homes. Only **six percent** went to relative's homes.

-**11 percent** of foster care recipients had been diagnosed with a physical, mental or emotional disability.

-**94 percent** of foster care recipients were placed in locations within the state of Virginia.

For more information on Fairfax County Foster Care and Adoption program, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/childrencyouth](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/childrencyouth)



**A pessimist, they say, sees a glass of water as being half empty; an optimist sees the same glass as half full. But a giving person sees a glass of water and starts looking for someone who might be thirsty. - G. Donald Gale**

**Current and Upcoming Parenting Education Groups:**

Please contact Laurie at 703-324-7871, leytel@fairfaxcounty.gov if you wish to facilitate with one or more of these groups.

The following groups meet 5:30-8 p.m. in 2012 and will be conducted in English unless otherwise noted:

1/11—6/6	Wed	Ages 0-4	Annandale	21 weeks
1/25—4/25	Wed	Ages 5-11 (African American)	Alexandria	13 weeks
1/26—4/26	Thurs	Ages 5-11	Springfield	13 weeks
1/30—4/30	Mon	Parent/Adolescent	Alexandria	12 weeks
1/30—6/25	Mon	Ages 0-4 (Spanish)	Fairfax	21 weeks
1/31—5/01	Tues	Ages 5-11 (Spanish)	Centreville	13 weeks
2/6—5/7	Mon	Ages 5-11	Fairfax	13 weeks
3/13—6/5	Tues	Parent/Adolescent	Reston/ Herndon	12 weeks
Apr—Aug	TBA	Ages 5-11 (African American)	Alexandria	12 weeks
5/29—8/21	Tues	Ages 5-11 (Spanish)	Falls Church	13 weeks
6/7—8/30	Thurs	Ages 5-11	Springfield	13 weeks
6/19—9/11	Tues	Ages 5-11	Reston/ Herndon	13 weeks

Laurie Eytel—Editor

Leigh Giza—Assistant Editor

Fairfax County  
**Department of Family Services**  
 Children, Youth and Families Division  
 Child Abuse Prevention Services  
 12011 Government Center Parkway  
 Fairfax, VA 22035  
 703-324-7871

**Our web site:**

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/about/volops.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/about/volops.htm)



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 special accommodations call 703-324-7871, TTY 703-222-9452. Please allow seven working days in advance of the event in order to make the necessary arrangements. This information is available in alternate formats by calling 703-324-7871; TTY 703-222-9452.