

**ADULTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE
IN THE LIVES OF CHILDREN**

APRIL 2008

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Thanks to those of you who attended our last Herndon Coalition meeting on Wednesday, Mar. 26th. Here is a recap of what was discussed –

New Proposals –

- **Herndon Elementary Lunch Bunch Conflict Club** – this is a program we began last year and Connie Britt asked if we could do it again this year. The students enjoy being able to pick from various card games, puzzles, and other activities when they finish their lunch early.
- **Herndon Middle School Guidance Resource Books** – we are proposing purchasing 15 copies of “From Binge to Blackout” for Guidance Counselors and parents to have as a resource.
- **Herndon High School Clinic Resources** – we were asking for funds to help purchase Teen Pregnancy/Teen Parenting resource materials in Spanish for Virginia Wilkinson to use.
- **Red Ribbon Week Resources** – we have asked to purchase additional banners for next fall’s Red Ribbon Week.

Parents Who Host Lose the Most Program – If you would like more fact cards, please let me know. We have them in several different languages.

Alcoa Grant – the Coalition received funding from Alcoa Foundation for a parent education program for Hispanic Parents in 2 age groups – K through 6th grade and 7th – 12th grade in the Spring. Alcoa Foundation’s mission is to actively invest in the quality of life in Alcoa communities worldwide.

Peer-a-Mid Summit 2008 – the program was held on March 10th. Almost 100 students from elementary school through high school attended an informative two hour session geared towards Respecting Diversity and more.

Prom Note-cards – Prom notecards are being distributed to various elementary schools and St. Joe’s. They should be returned by April 30th.

Announcements –

- **Department of Family Services** – Marilyn Bursch attended our meeting for the first time and reported that they just offered their last Parent Support classes due to Budget Cuts. Marilyn works in the Children, Youth & Family section and focuses on prevention for McNair ES, Terraset ES, Dogwood ES, and Forest Edge ES. She gave us an overview of her department and to find out more information, [click here](#). Her office also works with Adults & Aging. She reported that they are seeing an increase in grandparents who are raising children.

- **Hispanic Parent Meetings** – Becky Field-Ross came to the last meeting and gave a presentation on All Night Grad and After Prom to our parents. She brought photos and translated information. There was also a student who attended several years back that was able to provide additional info to the parents.

- **Herndon Elementary** – Connie Britt reported that there are several upcoming programs – Silent Auction (April 4th), Math and Science Night (April 10th @ 6:30 pm), SCA Spirit Day (April 11th), Reflections Reception (April 15th), Book Fair (April 21st – 24th), and BeeGA Golf Tournament (April 26th).

- **Hutchison Elementary** – Brittany Good reported the After-School program is finished for this year. Hope to get started earlier on it next school year. There will be a Family Fitness Day on April 24th from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Any organizations that would like to set-up a table, please contact [Brittany](#). They are received information from the Coalition on Internet Tips, Parenting Tips, and more for their Parent Resource Center.
- **Health Department** – Virginia Wilkinson, school nurse for HHS & HMS, reported that they are up to 20 moms who are either pregnant or parenting.
- **Herndon Middle School** – Jaquelyn Wallace reported that are hopeful they will receive funding for their Resource Library proposal; March 28th there will be a Langston Hughes & Herndon Middle basketball game – 7th graders vs 7th graders, 8th graders vs 8th graders, and then a Faculty game. The Technology Department recently received a Program Excellence award; the Step team earned 3rd place at a recent competition at West Potomac HS; preparing for the 3rd annual World Cup Soccer tournament to be held during after-school programming; and the College Partnership group visited the Northern Virginia Community College Medical campus in Alexandria, VA recently.
- **Trinity Presbyterian Church** – Virginia Wilkinson reported that they have begun their spring ESOL classes.
- **Fairfax County Human Services** – Patti Stevens spoke about the upcoming Job Fair @ HHS on April 17th. This Job Fair will be geared towards Transitions & Career Connections: Where Are You Going after High School? - **For seniors only** - Herndon High School Cafeteria - 2:30-4:30 p.m. The county also has some Prevention Funding available. Fairfax County Partners in Prevention Fund for July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009. Proposals are being requested to implement one or more of the following evidence-based programs: ***Al's Pals, We Can!, and Safe Dates***. These programs directly support one or more of the following prevention goals: Children are physically fit with good nutritional habits; Children enter kindergarten fully ready to succeed; and Children and youth are safe from violence and bullying. A copy of the solicitation is available at the following website: <<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpsm/solic.htm>> or from Sandy Jones, Contract Specialist: 703-324-8411. There is a Pre-proposal Conference: April 3, 2008 10 am Room 120C, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA. CLOSING: April 30, 2008 @ 2:00 p.m.
- There is also another grant opportunity from the Substance Abuse Agency focusing on child development, anger management, and media safety. Contact [Patti Stevens](#) for more info on this one.
- Also trying to bring Emilio to HHS for a program during one of the Seminar days to further explore diversity appreciation.
- **Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic** – Veronica Vogt reported that they are participating in the upcoming Community Day and need some volunteers to help run the Fish Bowl game; Internships are also available for rising Juniors & Seniors with a stipend (\$200 - \$300). To apply or to volunteer to help out, contact Tricia Mussante (freeclinicvols@aol.com). An exciting announcement that they are now going to begin seeing Sick Children for the first time on Tuesday & Thursdays from 9 am – 12 pm. Kaiser Permanente donated money for a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. St. Anne's Church donated funds to help pay for needed medicines. No appointment is necessary, but you must be eligible and provide a proof of income. For more info, call 703-481-8160. There are also multiple Blood Pressure Screenings at various locations – see list below. *If you would like a flyer on the Internship program and/or the Community Day volunteer opportunity, send me an email.*
- **Town of Herndon Police** – Patti reported that the Herndon Youth Police Academy will run April 8 – June 10 on Tuesday evenings for 14 – 18 year olds and the Explorer's Club meets Thursdays from 5 – 8 pm.
- **World Vision** – Henry Pacheco and Julio Chacon reported that World Vision is undergoing some internal adjustments because many of the teams vary from location to location. Our area is gang-specific and other areas focus on other problems. Recently they took some of the Unidos club members to DC to participate in the "[Take Back America](#)" program sponsored by the Progressive Alliance. It lasted 3 days and the students got a chance to see politics in action and

OUR MISSION

The GHCC is united in a drive to help ensure the well-being of all youth in the Herndon community. We dedicate our efforts to provide information and education about preventing under-age drinking, drug-abuse use issues, and personal character issues faced by our young citizenry, because all kids are capable of success, no exceptions.

speak to famous individuals. Also, the Unidos club members participated in the recent Coalition co-sponsored Teen Neighborhood College. They are also working with older kids more often and currently have 22 mentees. They mentioned a recent increase in Bloods & Cryp activity.

Venture into Volunteering, a free volunteer fair, on Wednesday, May 7, 2008, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., at the Herndon Senior Center, 873 Grace Street, Herndon, VA 20170. This fair will be the third of its kind in Fairfax County. Representatives from approximately 30 nonprofit organizations and Fairfax County agencies will be on hand to talk about their volunteer programs and benefits. Some of the community partners expected to attend are: Reston Interfaith, Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman, and Pets on Wheels. There will be volunteer opportunities available for everyone! **Hunter Mill Supervisor Catherine Hudgins is the guest speaker. Refreshments will be provided, and participants will have an opportunity to enter a prize drawing.** This event is hosted by the Fairfax County Department of Family Services/Fairfax Area Agency on Aging, the Fairfax County Public Library, Volunteer Fairfax, The Campagna Center's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program and the Fairfax County Public Library Foundation, Inc. For more information or to request reasonable accommodations for a disability, contact Trina Mayhan-Webb at the Fairfax County Department of Family Services/Fairfax Area Agency on Aging, at **703-324-5184**, TTY 703-449-1186, or by e-mail at trina.mayhan-webb@fairfaxcounty.gov. Information also is available at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/aaa.

Upcoming Dates

Apr. 3 – Pre-Proposal conference for [Fairfax County Partners in Prevention Fund](#), 10 am

Apr. 8 – Free Clinic BP screening @ Herndon Senior Center – 11 am – 12 pm

Apr. 12 - Free Clinic BP screening @ The Closet – 10 am – 2 pm

Apr. 14 – Free Clinic BP screening @ The Closet – 10 am – 2 pm

Apr. 15 – Free Clinic BP screening @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

Apr. 17 – Training & Career Connections Job Fair Day – HHS, 2:30 – 4:30 pm

Apr. 17 – Hispanic Parent meeting, 7 pm – Neighborhood Resource Center. Topic: Internships, Career Center, and ESOL Transitional High School

Apr. 19 – Free Clinic BP screening @ Open Door Presbyterian, 7 am – 10 am

Apr. 22 – Free Clinic BP screening @ The Closet – 10 am – 2 pm

Apr. 23 – Herndon Coalition meeting, 3:30 pm HHS Principal's Conference Room

Apr. 26 – YADAPP (Youth Against Dangers Actions & Peer Pressure) at Mt. Vernon HS, from 9 am – 5 pm for high school aged students. Register by Mar. 28th. Contact [Janet Young](#) or [Sekenia Welch](#).

Apr. 30 – Return all completed Prom Note-Cards to Herndon High, attention: Lisa Lombardozzi

May 3 – Herndon Community Day, Neighborhood Resource Center – 12 pm – 4 pm

May 7 – Venture into Volunteering @ Herndon Senior Center – 10 am – 12 pm