

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

APRIL 2009

WWW.FCPS.EDU/HERNDONHS/COALITION/HOMEPAGE.HTML

Hello everyone – here is a recap of our last Coalition meeting.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 27th at 3:30 pm in the LECTURE HALL. This is a different location!! You don't want to miss this meeting because it will give us the results of our own Herndon students who took the 2008 Youth Survey.

Agenda Items –

Funding – we have completed all proposals and came close to spending almost all of our \$3000.

Herndon High & Herndon Middle Hispanic Parent meetings – the next meeting is Thursday, May 21st.

Parent Programs – we plan to have a program next fall that will focus on helping parents make their children accountable for their actions.

Youth Survey Results – as mentioned above, our last meeting of this school year will focus on the results of our Herndon students.

Announcements –

Neighborhood Resource Center – Cecily Powell reported that they are involved in “Herndon in Bloom”, an ongoing beautification program. Students needing Community Service hours, should contact [Cecily Powell](#). Volunteers are also still needed to help out with the Herndon Community Day on Saturday, May 2nd from 12 pm – 4 pm. Contact [Maria Gorski](#) to volunteer.

Town of Herndon Police – Officer Farbray reported that May 25th is National Missing Children's Day. In honor of this day, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children encourages you to take 25 minutes to help make children safer. [The website for Take 25 can be found here](#). You can find 25 tips on how to keep kids safe and much more. Explorer program will be ending soon and they plan to participate again in Road D.A.W.G. from August 24 – 28.

Reston Interfaith – Bill Threlkeld reported that they are still offering Foreclosure Workshops. The ESL program still draws 40-50 individuals on Tuesday & Thursday evenings. They are looking for groups/organizations willing to provide a meal for the attendees. It would be on Tuesdays for approximately 35-40 people. Contact [Bill Threlkeld](#) for more info or to offer to help out. They will no longer be able to fund the Homework Help program at the Resource Center. Currently, over 40 students are being helped. The program is held twice a week from 7 – 8:30 pm. Contact [Bill Threlkeld](#) if you want more information. They are also hoping to expand their [SAFE DATES](#) program. **If you would like the Foreclosure flyer in Spanish, let me know and I can send it to you.**

St. Joe's School – Jenn Suess reported that they had collected baby clothing, food, and blankets for organizations. They had an Internet Safety presentation recently for the parents and students of 6th – 8th graders. The Youth Groups have also collected food for Christ House, as well as baked for Prison Ministry.

Herndon Community Center – Mike Hotze reported that the annual Herndon Festival will be May 28 – 31st and they will offer Summer Fun Camp for elementary students and a Teen Discovery Camp for Middle & High School students. You can join the Community Center as a teen for just \$15 for the school year. Scholarships are available by contacting, Dave Z.

Hispanic Parent Meetings – The last meeting will be May 21st at 7 pm.

Other Announcements –

Teen Road Safety Fair – Will be held at the Fairfax County Driving Track (3725 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly, VA) - \$3 for Girl Scouts, \$10 for non-Girl Scouts. Questions – call Kaitlin Hasseler, 202-237-1670, ext. 238.

Fairfax Partnership for Youth 5th Annual Mental Health Awareness Conference – Tuesday, May 19th from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm at Fairfax Community Church. To register, visit www.fairfaxyouth.org or call Susan Lydick at 703-324-5292.

Rx Prevention Starts at Home - Teens are finding prescription drugs wherever people they know keep them - and abusing them more than any illicit street drug except marijuana. Prescription and over-the-counter drugs are readily available at home, at school, and at family and friends' houses. In fact, 70 percent of persons age 12 and older who abuse prescription painkillers say they get them from a relative or friend. Parents can become part of the solution in preventing teen prescription drug abuse by monitoring the medicines they have at home, getting rid of unneeded medicines, and teaching their teens about the dangers of Rx abuse. To view more info, [click here](#).

AART - All Ages Read Together (AART) is a private non-profit organization that provides free reading activities to low and moderate-income preschool age children in Loudoun & Fairfax Counties. The closest location for the Herndon community is - Herndon Senior Center, 873 Grace Street, Herndon, VA 20170, 703.464.6200. The program is offered Wednesdays & Fridays from 12:45pm- 2:00pm. To volunteer, participate or enroll please contact: Sandra Shihadeh, 571.309.7089, info@allagesreadtogether.com or visit their website - www.allagesreadtogether.com.

RETHINKING DRINKING - A new website and booklet from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) could help many people reduce their risk for alcohol problems. Called [Rethinking Drinking](#), the new materials presents evidence-based information about risky drinking patterns, the alcohol content of drinks, and the signs of an alcohol problem, along with resources to help people who choose to cut back or quit drinking. Rethinking Drinking was recently featured in an [article](#) by ABC News as well as a brief news [segment](#) on CNN.

Register Today for Community Mobilization for Coalitions Webinar on May 21 - CADCA's National Coalition Institute will host a new Webinar, *Community Mobilization for Coalitions*, on Thursday, May 21, 2009 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. Eastern. Coalition expert Michael Sparks will discuss how to mobilize residents, businesses, schools, churches, and other groups to work together on the local level. Jane Callahan, Director for CADCA's National Coalition Institute will moderate the session. [Click here](#) to register. Community Mobilization for Coalitions will provide participants with step-by-step information on mobilizing neighborhoods and practical tips and tools to help coalitions communicate effectively with diverse audiences. Participants will learn the different forms of advocacy, why it's important to research issues and build capacity to implement specific strategies, how to recruit allies and the different campaigns that coalitions may use in their communities. Participants will leave this session equipped with the tools and knowledge to gain support from many sectors of their communities. Michael Sparks, M.A., is Policy Director at the Center for Community Action and Training (CCAT), where he provides training, technical assistance (TA), strategic planning and community organizing support to communities and organizations across the country. Mr. Sparks has expertise in the alcohol policy field as well as in the areas of

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.

community building, using local control strategies to manage problematic alcohol and drug environments, the legislative process, and neighborhood revitalization. Mr. Sparks is a frequent trainer and technical assistance provider for CADCA's National Coalition Institute. To register for the session, [click here](#). For more information on the Institute's Webinar Series, go to www.coalitioninstitute.org/Coalition_Resources/WebinarSeriesHome.asp.

Kinship Respite Day – Family Luncheon & Game Day – May 16th from 10 am – 2 pm at Southgate Community Center. There will be free activities for children 3 – 12. Pre-registration will be required: 703-324-3517. Designed for all grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other relatives who are raising a child for another family member.

Meetings for 08-09 (all meetings are at 3:30 pm) – Last One is May 27th!!

Upcoming Dates

- May 2 – Herndon Community Day & Housing Fair, Bloom Shopping Center, 12 pm – 4 pm
- May 2 – Teen Road Safety Fair, 12 pm – 4 pm
- May 16 – Kinship Respite Day @ Southgate Community Center
- May 27 – **Herndon Coalition Meeting, 3:30 pm in the HHS Lecture Hall – Last one for Year**
- May 19 – Mental Wellness Conference, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm
- May 21 – Herndon High & Herndon Middle Parent Meeting – 7 pm
- May 28 – 31 – Herndon Festival



There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer. With it beats the spirit of service, generosity, and compassion....and the health and well-being of our community, our country, and our world.

--Kobi Yamada