

## QUARTERLY COMMUNIQUE

Embracing court connected youth and families with the help and support of a caring Virginia Beach community.

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### Thank You For Being A Friend

Since 1991, the Friends of the Virginia Beach Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court has relied on compassionate partners who are committed to promoting positive change in at-risk children and families. Friends awards scholarships; covers registration fees for camps and sports; purchases Rec Center passes; and furnishes essentials like food, furniture, hygiene supplies, clothing, books, and bus passes. Put simply, we fill gaps not provided by state and local budgets.

Recently, we have experienced unexpected obstacles including the cancellation of fundraisers due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the loss of two dedicated board members and community advocates, Diane Shelton and Marc Moore. Our current challenges are minor compared to those faced by many Virginia Beach families, so we are rolling up our sleeves and getting to work.

The community's support helps the continuity of our dedication to serving court involved youth and their families and connecting them with quality programs in the community.

### Featured Friend



Friends President Denielle Rigoglioso is a LPC and a CSAC in Virginia. She is the owner of Saltwater Counseling and Wellness LLC where she practices serving our community through Telehealth Therapy. Denielle has an extensive history of serving at risk youth and adults in Virginia Beach through Community Based Mental Health Services for the last 15 years. She has served on the Virginia Beach City Public Schools mental health task force for the last two years and has served on the Friends Board for over ten years. Denielle loves the beach, surfing, CrossFit and spending time with friends and family.

Helped a recently evicted family of four that was in need of food by giving them restaurant gift certificates.

Purchased several bicycles, helmets, and locks for clients who have jobs but no transportation to or from work.

Supplied JDC with MP3 player and earbuds.

Purchased crayons, water bottles, and snacks for the CSU waiting room.

Connected CSU workers with RA staff to assist with uniforms for indigent students.

Provided gift cards to a client — the child of a financially strapped single mother — recently released from JDC and in need of clothing and basic necessities.

Funded a plane ticket to Alaska for a client enrolled in a fisheries program to focus on professional development. Since then, the client has been released from parole and has returned to Alaska to pursue a career in commercial fishing.

Provided baby items, toys, and clothing for family members that were given emergency custody of children.

Catered a CSU staff appreciation luncheon.

Paying for rewards and incentives for clients such as gift certificates and meals.

Gifted a dining room set to a family who recently found permanent housing so that they can enjoy meals together and have a comfortable place for the children to complete schoolwork.

Purchased laundry and hygiene items for families so that they can focus on spending their money on other necessities like bills and food.

Covering Recreation Center memberships and summer camp registration fees to promote constructive use of free time.

### Clothing Closet Revitalization

The Clothing Closet needs a facelift, so plans are being made to make it more dignified and user friendly. If you have any suggestions — which are greatly appreciated — please email them to [vbcourtfriends@gmail.com](mailto:vbcourtfriends@gmail.com).

### Holiday Giving Tree

This program provides wrapped gifts and gift cards for indigent children and families that are not receiving holiday assistance from another program or organization.

Please consult with your supervisor and submit your application to the Friends mailbox by Tuesday, November 15.

## Community Resources

### Youth Services

- Seton Youth Shelter | 757-306-1840
- StandUp for Kids | 757-818-4901

### Housing & Shelter

- Regional Housing Crisis Hotline | 757-227-5932
- PiN Ministry | 757-962-3567

### Food Insecurity

- Foodbank SEVA | 757-627-6599
- The Gathering at Scott Memorial | 757-428-3720
- Judeo-Christian Outreach Center | 757-491-2846
- Potter's House | 757-428-7727 ext. 212

### Victims of Human Trafficking

- Samaritan House Crisis Hotline | 757-430-2120
- Freekind | 1-877-227-2321

### Financial Assistance

- Dept. of Human Services | 757-385-3200

### School Enrollment

- VBCPS Office of Student Leadership | 757-263-2020

### Child Abuse & Neglect

- DHS Child Protective Services | 757-385-3200

### Mental Health Services

- Suicide Hotline | 757-627-LIFE
- Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center | 757-496-6000
- BDHS Emergency Mental Health Services | 757-385-0888
- Child & Youth Services | 757-385-0850

### Can we help you?

Linda Knowles is available one day a week in the Friends office (across from the conference room) to discuss referrals.

You can also email us or call Nancy Reckling at 757-621-6257.

Please see your supervisor for a referral form.