



## *Families Helping Families*



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# ANNUAL REPORT 2015

January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015

“While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is about”

## Message from the CEO



We have had one incredible year at For Children's Sake of Virginia and it all would not have been possible without our amazing volunteers, foster parents, donors, staff and community. We are delighted to see what the year 2016 has in store for us!

“Success is not accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, LOVE of what you are doing.” ~Pele

*Deborah K. Evans*

CEO

For Children's Sake of Virginia



## Who We Are

For Children's Sake of Virginia (FCSVA) is a private non-profit corporation founded in 1997. FCSVA provides an array of services to children, adults and families in the community, including therapeutic foster care, adoption support services, community based services, adult mental health support, and outpatient therapy.

### Mission

FCSVA is dedicated to promoting positive environments for children and families that develop trust, stability and independence.

### Vision

A nurturing home environment for every child.

### Values

**Integrity:** Performance that is consistent with the highest standards of moral and ethical principles.

**Stewardship:** Responsible stewardship as key to accomplishing our mission and goals.

**Competence:** Excellence in all phases of our work, meeting professional standards of competency and working in compliance with federal and state laws.

**Respect:** Developing mutually respectful relationships at every level of our work through meaningful, effective communication while genuinely caring for each individual.

**Excellence:** The highest standards of excellence, professionalism and accountability are expected of all staff, foster families and volunteers.

## **About Our Services and Programs**

### ***Staff Composition***

For Children's Sake of Virginia is comprised of a diverse and highly qualified team of dedicated professionals.

### ***Therapeutic Foster Care***

For Children's Sake of Virginia's Therapeutic Foster Care Program (TFC) utilizes experienced case managers and dedicated foster families to provide safe and nurturing homes for children in need. Additionally, the foster care side of FCSVA extends its services to include Referred Respite, Entrustments, and Adoption services.

### ***Community Based Services***

The Community Based Services Program of FCSVA is comprised of Qualified Mental Health Professionals who provide services to youth in order to address any problems in school, the community and the home. Supervised Visitation is comprised of Master's Level staff who are trained in Parenting with Love and Logic, 123 Magic and CPR/First Aid certified. The Supervised Visitation program provides supervision during visits between youth and their family in order to assist with reunification or adhere to a court order. The Mentor program is comprised of qualified and dedicated staff members who seek to be a positive role model and influence in the life of a child in need.

### ***Outpatient Services***

The Outpatient Program at For Children's Sake of Virginia is designed to provide therapeutic interventions to adults, children, and families experiencing difficult life situations. FCSVA currently employs part-time therapists who are licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia and four full-time staff who provide therapy under clinical supervision of a Licensed Clinician.

### ***Adult Mental Health Support Services***

The Adult Program at For Children's Sake of Virginia's goal is to provide aging support services as well as mental health and behavioral in-home support services to individuals and their families. These services are designed to develop the necessary skills/supports to lead independent, healthy lives as well as preserve the family unit.

### ***Intensive Care Coordination***

For Children's Sake of Virginia provides a framework for the process of identifying, coordinating and evaluating the services necessary for a family to meet their care and outcome goals. The staff at FCSVA work with the family to craft an effective family oriented plan that can match the family with services, offer support as services are realized and assist the family in service assessment or in changing services as necessary.

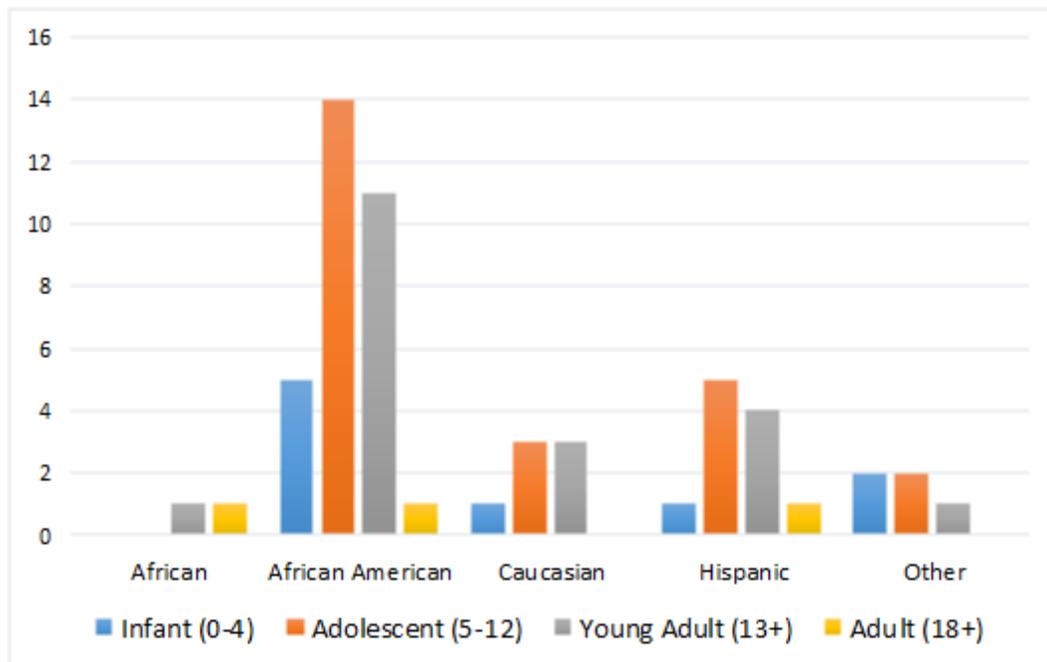
## Therapeutic Foster Care and Respite

The Therapeutic Foster Care and Referred Respite Programs offer foster care and respite services to youth from birth up to 18 years of age. In 2015, the TFC program was able to provide strong and nurturing homes to 56 TFC and respite clients.

Additionally, FCSVA discharged a total of 23 clients from TFC or respite. Of clients discharged, 82% were either reunited with their biological family or entered into adoptive placements.

At the end of 2015 FCSVA had 33 TFC youth in care.

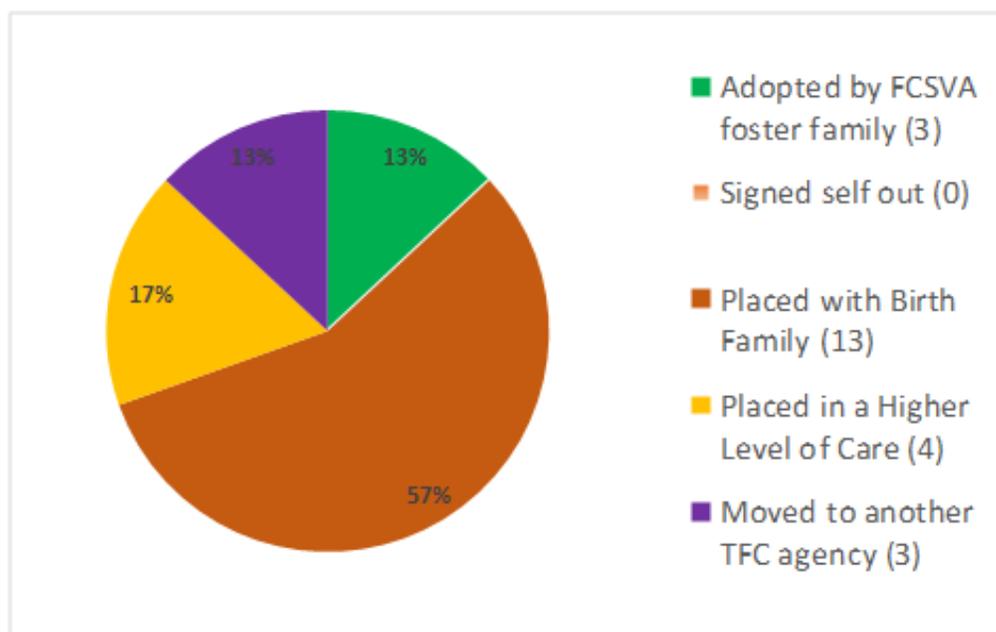
## TFC and Respite Ages and Ethnicities



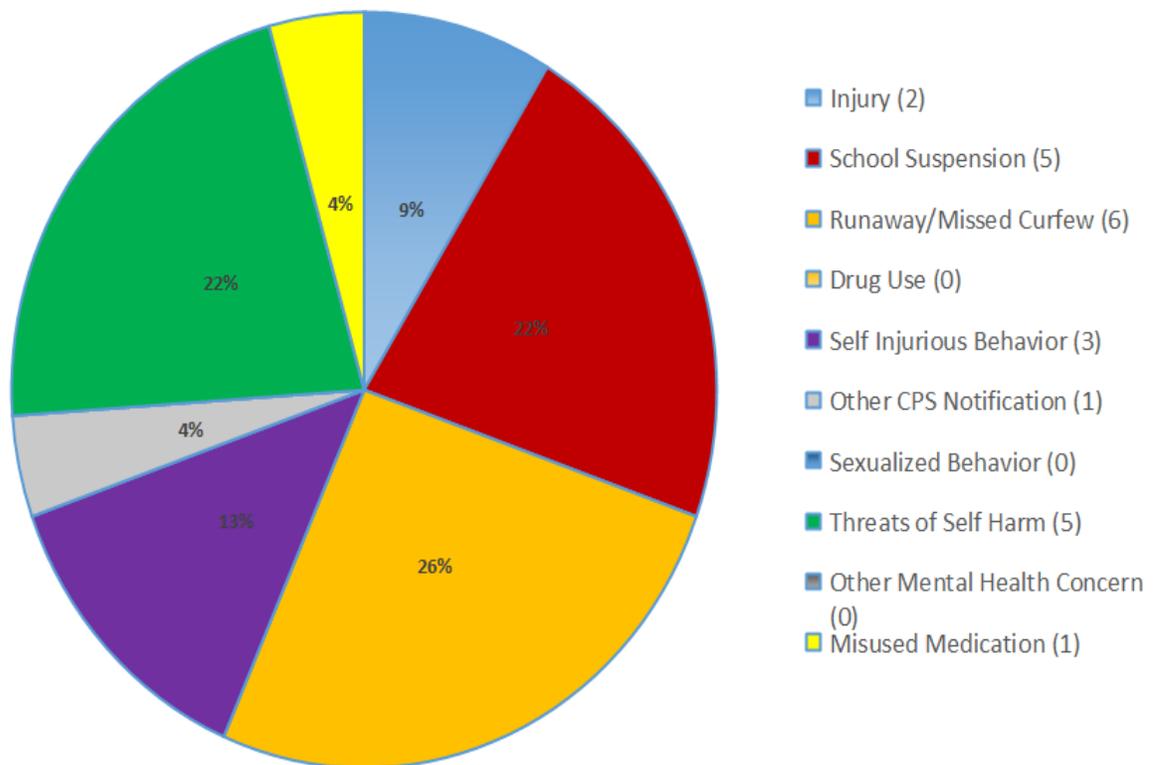
## Referred Respite

In 2015, For Children's Sake of Virginia provided Referred Respite services to a total of three individuals. The three respite placements were referred from City of Alexandria and Fairfax County. Of these three, two went back home with their birth family. Respite did continue from time to time. The third was placed in a residential setting.

## TFC and Respite Discharges



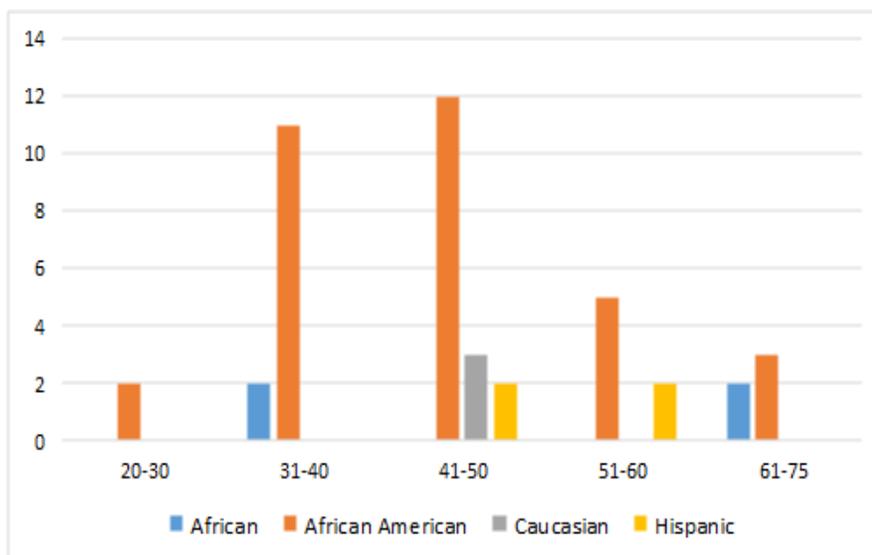
In 2015, the TFC program documented 23 incidents. Of the incidents, one required Child Protective Services (CPS) notification. At the end of the year, there were no open CPS investigations and no clients were discharged nor foster families closed due to the investigation.



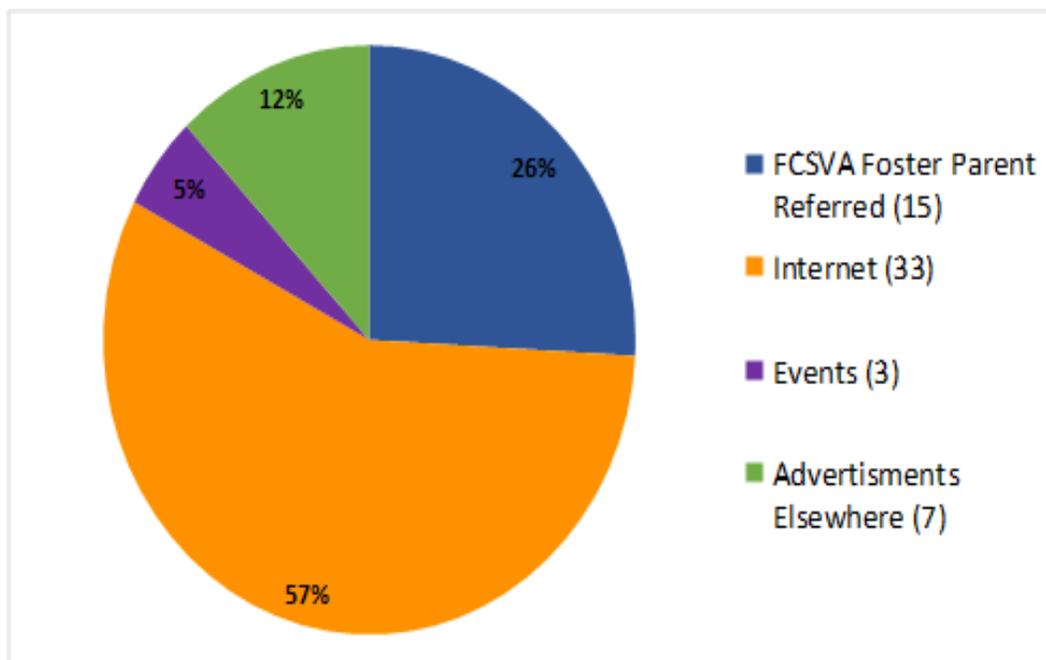
### FCSVA Foster Family Highlights

- FCSVA had a total of 31 active foster families in 2015, consisting of 44 foster parents.
- Out of the active 31 foster homes, 29 had placements in 2015.
- The median age for foster parents was 46 years old.

### Foster Parent Ages and Ethnicities



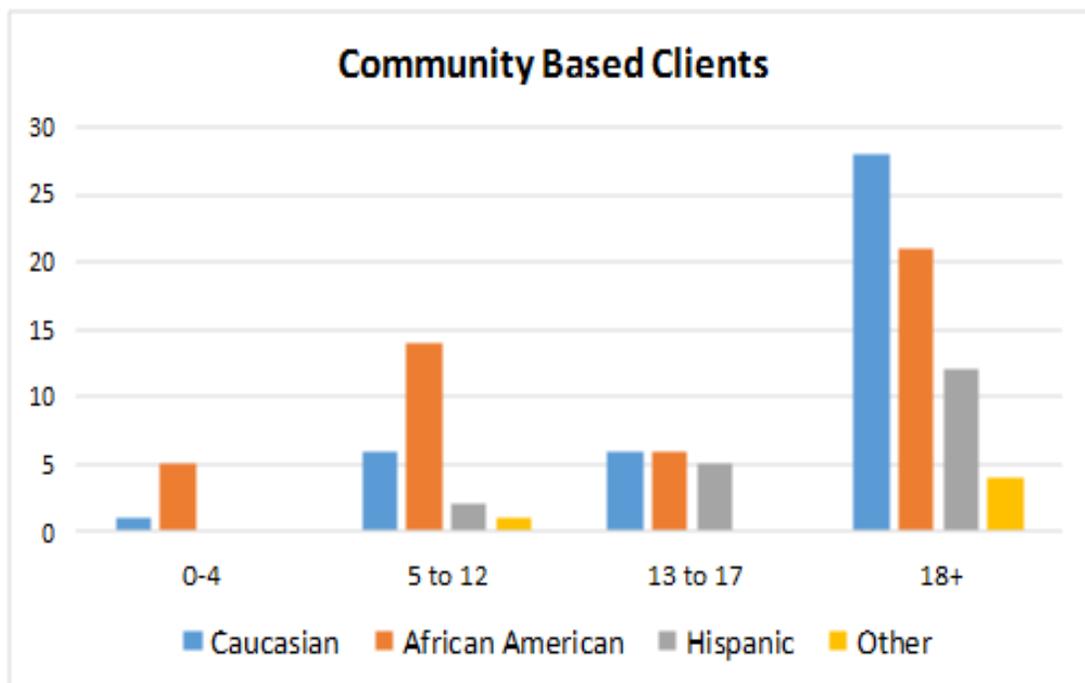
### Foster Parent Inquiries



## Community Based Services

FCSVA's Community Based Services exist to strengthen families to preserve the placement of children with their family and facilitate a child's return from foster care, residential treatment, group home or psychiatric hospitalization.

Community Based Services include Intensive In-home, Adult Mental Health Support, Supervised Visitation, Intensive Care Coordination, Outpatient Therapy, and Mentoring. During the 2015 year, For Children's Sake of Virginia served a total number of 111 Community Based clients and families.



### Intensive In-Home

Intensive In-Home utilizes Master's Level Counselors with expertise in parenting, education and support, to provide 5-12 hours per week of in-home services to assist with managing a child's difficult behaviors. The counselors work extensively with both the parents and the children to gain stability and achieve family goals. In 2015, For Children's Sake served 16 clients, all between the ages of 9 and 17.

**Mentoring**

The Mentor Program at FCSVA provides youth with a positive role model and extra support in order to improve the youth's ability to interact with others. Services provided by mentors at For Children's Sake include: Education, Training, Conflict Resolution, Career Planning, Behavior Modification, Independent Living Skills and Social/Recreational Activities. The Mentoring program at For Children's Sake served a total of two clients in 2015, (two males) and had two discharges during the calendar year.

**Outpatient Therapy**

During the calendar year, FCSVA provided outpatient services to a total of 78 clients and employed four licensed therapists. Our team of therapists provides services to individuals, couples, children, adolescents and families.

Therapeutic services address issues regarding Anger Management, Eating Disorders, Sexual Identity, Family Issues, Depression, Anxiety, Grief and Loss, Oppositional Defiance, Post Traumatic Stress, Trauma Based Disorders, Attention Deficit Disorders, as well as family trauma.

**Supervised Visitation**

The Supervised Visitation component of FCSVA began in 2009, and has been steadily growing ever since.

The Supervised Visitation program at For Children's Sake served a total of 15 clients in 2015, utilizing 10 trained professionals.



### Foster Parent Spotlight

Melvin Smith and Elayne Durham have been foster parents with For Children's Sake since June of 2007. They have had a total of nine foster care placements. Currently, they have two teenage boys placed in their home. One has been with them since February, 2013 and signed a Permanent Foster Care Agreement in February 2015. The other has been in their home since November, 2014. Ms. Elayne, stated that she and Mr. Melvin foster because they feel there is a need for it and every child deserves a home. She explained, "Most kids enter into foster care for situations that they did not bring on

themselves and they have to live with however they ended up here, whether it's good or bad. They don't have a choice; kids get put in situations that they did not create." They feel that this is very unfair and want to provide these children with a decent place to live and with a family that cares about them.

Ms. Elayne has raised two children of her own and recently retired from Prince William County Schools after 21 years. While, Mr. Melvin has no biological children of his own, he has also helped to raise kids in in the school system for 25 years. Both are disciplinarians, they believe strongly in showing respect and what's right and wrong. They feel that most children don't have an understanding of right and wrong and so they try to guide them in the right direction by being clear and consistent.

Ms. Elayne feels that one thing they have learned since beginning to foster, "is that you have to rethink what you know, if you want to get through to the children or help them." She explained, "You can't rely on how you were raised, you have to adapt to them and try to critique it, so it works out for both of you. It's a give and take." She stated, "A lot of things I've said I'd never do I'm now doing, for example, letting a foster child stay in my home even after they've taken the car keys." She feels that she's softened in that she's learned to look past the behavior and look more at the person and who that person has the ability to become. They feel that the behaviors come from what was never taught to them growing up. She stated, "It's difficult to try to teach things to a teenage boy for the first time, but that's what has to be done". At first, behaviors were everything, now she feels it's only a small part of it, it's more important to focus on what their potential could be. She feels that since they have evolved past focusing on behaviors they are able to get through to their foster children faster, able to understand why they are acting a certain way and not stay angry at what they have or haven't done. She feels it's made their family life so much better; they don't focus on the behavior, they move past it so everyone can relax and move on with their day. Life is not just about "that thing you did".

**Thank you Mr. Melvin and Ms. Elayne!**

## Risk Management Summary

For Children's Sake of Virginia is licensed by the Virginia Department of Social Services as a child-placing agency providing therapeutic foster care and adoption after care services. FCSVA is also licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) as Community Based Services provider for Intensive In-Home and Adult Mental Health Support Services.

**Adult Mental Health Support Services:** In March 2013, FCSVA was licensed to provide Mental Health Support Services to adults in the community. FCSVA provides information to community agencies and offers client access to this valuable service.

**Training:** Staff participated in High Fidelity Wraparound training hosted by the State Office of Comprehensive Services for certification in Intensive Care Coordination. This service works with a client individually and their family to meet their goals and keep clients from entering institutional or out-of-home care. In July 2015, we started to offer this service to the community. Six staff members have been fully trained to offer Intensive Care Coordination Services.

Two external reviews were conducted in 2015 by the Department of Social Services. The first unannounced audit noted four citations.

The second unannounced audit noted two violations of the Minimum Standards for Licensed Private Child-Placing Agencies. All citations were reviewed and corrected either onsite or in a timely manner.

In 2015, the DBHDS also conducted an unannounced audit for our Community Based Programs which noted three violations. These violations were corrected onsite or in a timely manner.

During 2015, there were no client or foster parent grievances. There were no breaches in access to the database or any disclosure of confidential client information occurred during this reporting period.

FCSVA utilizes both the Chantilly and Woodbridge, VA locations to conduct meetings, foster parent and teen groups, treatment team meetings, family supervision support, training and outpatient therapy sessions.

For Children's Sake of Virginia is a part of the United Way Campaign in Virginia and has continued to benefit from this membership. (United Way of the National Capital Area #8457 and a member of the Combined Federal Campaign #29582.) The agency retains the legal services of C. Douglas Welty as it's registered agent and utilizes the services of Ballard and Serio for financial audit needs.



## COMMUNITY SUPPORT PARTNERS



### **A BIG THANK YOU to our donors!**

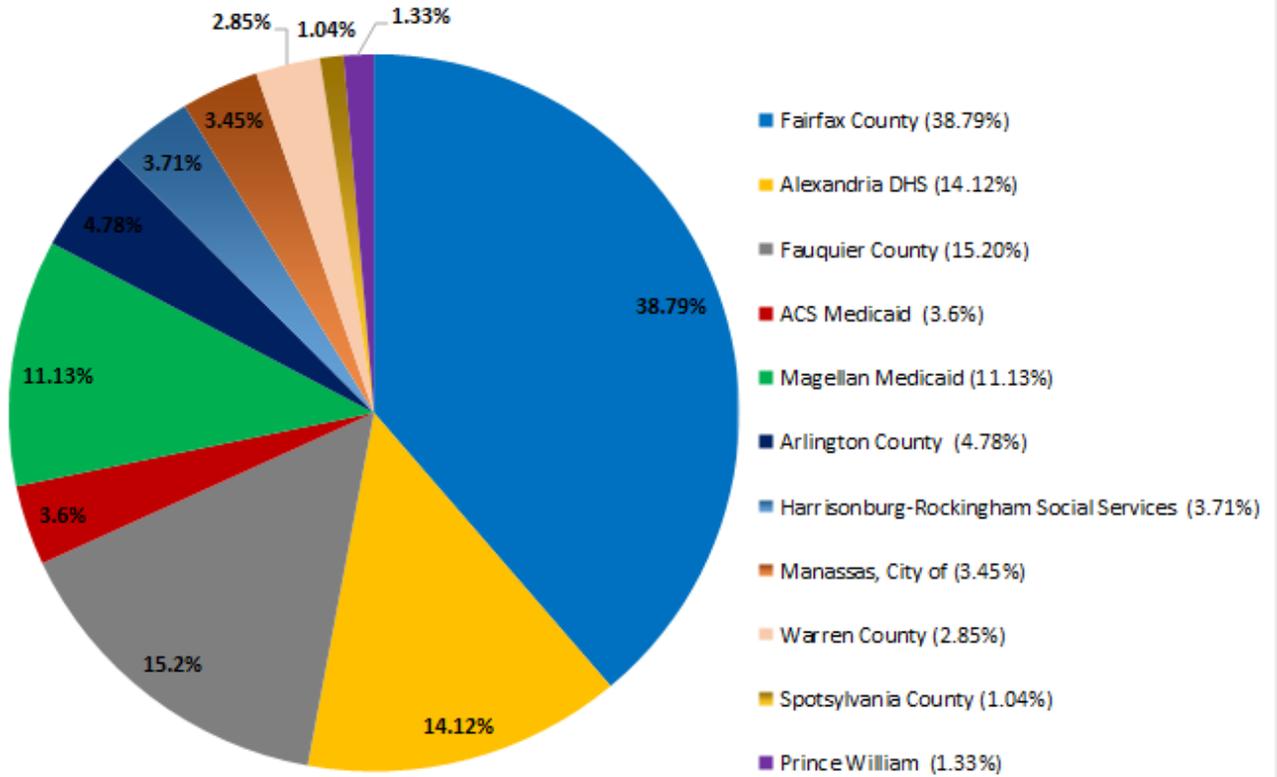
- ◆ Roy & Sandra Graham
  - ◆ Meagan Donahue
    - ◆ Ron Masci
- ◆ Kohl's Haymarket
- ◆ Showcase Dance Studio
  - ◆ Ruby Tuesday
  - ◆ World Bank
- ◆ Calvary Christian Church
  - ◆ The TJX Foundation

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Funding Diversification: FCSVA has current contracts with jurisdictions that stretch as far as King George to Fairfax County.

Funding streams flow from county contracts, Medicaid, private insurance companies, private pay clients as well as financial and in-kind donations from the community. Additionally, FCSVA continues to expand services which allows the agency to bill under various private panel insurance companies.

### FCSVA REVENUE SOURCES



## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

