



FOR CHILDREN'S SAKE OF VIRGINIA

Summer Newsletter

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School is out, the sun is up, and the humidity is high—it's definitely summer here in Northern Virginia! We know that this can be both an exciting and stressful time for parents with children in their home, with all of the camps and craziness that comes with no school, and are so grateful for all of the continuous support you give us every day.

Since our last newsletter in April, we've approved another foster family, hired another caseworker, one of our families has officially adopted two children in their care, and we've placed 5 new children in our homes. We've also welcomed 3 families through PRIDE training, and are hoping they'll be joining our family soon!

We couldn't do the work we do without you—from being foster parents, to volunteers and fundraisers, to spreading awareness every day in your community — thank you. We hope that the following pages help you see your impact!



OUR COMMUNITY

Welcoming Jessica to the team!



We're so excited to welcome Jessica Moser to our team as our newest TFC Case Manager! Jessica attended Virginia Tech for her undergraduate degree and George Mason University for her master's degree in Social Work. She has served children and families in the nonprofit sector for seven years, including her most recent graduate school field placement with the Fairfax County Foster Care and Adoption unit. In her spare time Jessica enjoys traveling, camping, and reading. She is committed to empowering children to reach their goals and fulfill their full potential. Jessica is thrilled to join the For Children's Sake team and to be an advocate for the children and families they serve.

Fun Fact: Jessica lived in India for a year!

Welcome to the Munoz Family!

We'd like to extend a very warm welcome to our newest foster family, the Munoz's! Andrea and Alex live in Woodbridge, Virginia with their 11-year-old daughter and 2 sons, 4- and 1- years old respectively. We're so excited for them to begin their fostering journey, and know that they'll be fantastic with the children in their care.

"During our first respite, we were asked why we became foster parents. My response was that 'we have a lot of love that we want to share with someone that needs it.' So I guess that is why I'm most excited. We finally get to share that love. From a non-traditional fostering stand point, we are hopeful to complete our family. And in doing so I hope we are able to give that child the lifelong love they deserve and help them achieve things they would not be able to without that strong support system."

Welcome to the team, Alex, Andrea, and family!



Congrats on your adoption!

Maria Buie, one of our amazing foster mothers, has recently adopted 2 children in her care, and we're so excited for her! Here's what she had to say about her experience.

"There's a family for every child. My adoption story began about 3 years ago. I am a retired Management Analyst and I've worked with For Children's Sake for over 15 years as a therapeutic foster parent. I've raised two biological boys to adulthood. To be honest, I didn't want to adopt because I thought I might be considered "too old" to adopt, but I was encouraged by family and friends. The children had already been placed in my home for about 2 years before the adoption process started. During that time we formed a special bond. Our adoption was just finalized last month. We had a difficult adoption process, but I was convinced to hang in there. I am so glad that I did. I found the daughter that I've always wanted who is a funny, lovable gem and another son that lights up the room with his smile. They both add sparkle and purpose to my life that no other type of retirement could. I enjoy giving them



love and the stability they never had, but always deserved. Trust, love, and respect take time, but are very, very worth it. We are planning a big party to celebrate with family and friends. I would like to give a shout out to For Children's Sake for bringing us together and standing by my side every step of the way. These children are really a joy that I can't imagine being without! "

Congratulations, Maria Buie and family!

Our Newest Decorations!

We've added some of the fabulous artwork that our foster families and those in their care have created to our office walls. We look forward to filling up our walls with more artwork! Thanks to Target for the generous donation of the twine and clothespins, as well as art supplies so we can continue to decorate our office with the great work our families give us! Be on the lookout for some great canvases, coming in the next few months!



GET INVOLVED

Donations

Call 703-817-9890 or email cgallant@fcsva.org to set up a time to drop off any of the following *new* items:

- School supplies
- Arts & Crafts supplies
- Toys
- Hygiene items (toothbrush, feminine hygiene products, etc.)
- Diapers
- Gift cards for groceries or gas for our foster parents or to video game stores or clothing shops for the children in our care



You can also visit our website to donate online, or you can set your Amazon account to donate a percentage of the proceeds from your cart every time you order by going to smile.amazon.com and adding For Children's Sake of Virginia as your charity of choice!

Know someone who would be great at fostering? Don't forget that we offer a

\$300 REFERRAL BONUS

when the person you refer to us becomes an approved foster parent!

Become a Foster Parent



At FCSVA, you can attend our no-strings-attached training session to learn more about what fostering looks like and see if it's the right fit for you. If you love it, we help you through the application process and beyond. We provide continuous training and support to all of our foster families the entire time that they're with our organization! Because, as a foster parent, **you** are our most valuable resource!

Reach out to our Foster Parent Training Specialist, Charlotte Gallant, at cgallant@fcsva.org or call 703.817.9890 to learn more and get started!

Work for us—we're hiring!

Join our team of dedicated professionals!

Right now, we're looking for **part-time community-based counselors** to join our team! A masters degree in social work or a related field is required.

We're also looking for a **full-time case manager** to work with our foster youth and families. A bachelors or Masters degree in social work is preferred.

*For more information, or to send your resume, please contact
Kelley Willis at kwillis@fcsva.org.*

Past Events



In the last few months, we've been able to attend a **lot** of great events throughout the area, including Celebrate Fairfax, the Gainesville-Haymarket Rotary Club meeting, Alexandria's Earth Day, Rust Library's Adoption & Foster Showcase, Historic Manassas' Celebrate America, and more. Thanks so much to all of our great hosts and to all of the wonderful people we've met at these events!

Please feel free to reach out to cgallant@fcsva.org if you have any events you think we should be at!

Volunteer

- Fundraising: host a book drive in your local community, organize a dineout, etc.
- Community outreach: help us as we recruit foster parents by passing out flyers, partnering with local businesses, providing us with contacts at churches and PTAs, etc.
- Event Assistance: Help plan and run our annual picnic, appreciation events, holiday party, etc.
- Childcare support: watch our children while their parents go through our training or attend our support groups.

Interested? Contact Charlotte Gallant at cgallant@fcsva.org to learn more!

Upcoming Events!

July

Tuesday the 17th:
American Legion Post
176 Meeting

Wednesday the 18th:
American Legion
Herndon Chapter
Meeting

Thursday the 19th:
LION's Club of Bailey's
Crossroads Meeting

Wednesday the 25th:
Training for
established foster
parents

Thursday, the 26th-
Saturday the 28th:
Loudoun County Fair

August

Thursday the 16th:
Play For Charity Play
N' Learn fundraising
event at Playground
Superstore in Chantilly

September

Thursday the 6th:
Rotary Club of
Leesburg Meeting

Friday the 14th and
Saturday the 15th:
Reston Chalk Fest

Saturday the 15th:
Falls Church Festival &
Taste of Falls Church

Tuesday the 18th:
Falls Church-
Annandale
LIONs Club Meeting

Saturday the 22nd:
Clarendon Day

Allowance Training

Complete using <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1cYwaOMDshhiz0tpGAlEqMC4bvV1XolEI442sspkit5o/edit?usp=sharing> and email the completed form to cgallant@fcsva.org or mail to Charlotte at the office for **1 training hour**.

Why do foster children have allowance?

How can they earn their allowance? (circle the correct answer)

- They don't, they just get it
- Completing chores
- Getting good grades
- Behaving appropriately

Can you take a foster child's allowance away? (circle the correct answer)

- Yes, you can put it in a savings account for them if they don't do their chores
- No, they get all of the money no matter what

What is the minimum amount a foster child receives in allowance?

0-4: _____

5+: _____

Please list how you currently distribute your allowance to the children in your care, and, if applicable, how you plan on changing it now that you've completed this training:

Teen Development Training

Complete using <https://docs.google.com/gview?embedded=true&url=https%3A%2F%2Fstatic.ptbl.co%2Fstatic%2Fattachments%2F178036%2F1527958521.pdf%3F1527958521> and email the completed form to cgallant@fcsva.org or mail to Charlotte at the office for **1 training hour**.

What is one physical development teens will experience?

What is one cognitive development teens will experience?

What is one emotional development teens will experience?

What is one sexual development teens will experience?

What are three ways you can encourage conversation about development with your teen?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

What are three things you should be doing to raise sexually healthy teens?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Are you looking for training on a specific topic, either in a newsletter or in-person? Reach out to cgallant@fcsva.org know and tell her what you're looking for!

FOR CHILDREN'S SAKE OF VIRGINIA



Did you know?

For Children's Sake of Virginia also provides intensive in-home therapy, mentoring, supervised visitation, adult mental health services, intensive care coordination, visitation transportation, outpatient therapy, and mentoring. Call 703-817-9890 to learn more about our services today.



Why do we do the work we do?

Because every child deserves a chance for a better life. Listen to this inspiring story to learn more about the impact a foster parent can have in a child's life.

<https://youtu.be/FrV9oO0B0tk>

Do you follow us?

Make sure to like us and follow us to get our latest organization updates and additional parenting resources and fostering news!



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twitter.com/FCSVA