



## DUMFRIES, VIRGINIA

Virginia's Oldest Continuously Chartered Town  
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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Cydney Neville, Director of Community Services

DATE: December 3, 2013

RE: Monthly Department of Community Services Update

#### Priorities:

- Dumfries Cares
- Holiday Festivities

### Dumfries Cares

Mr. Antoine Harris has been hired as the Program Assistant for Dumfries Cares!

The Elementary Emerging Leaders Program has been expanded to Thursdays, in an effort to reach more youth. Parents will have the option to enroll their children in either the Wednesday, or Thursday after school program. Currently, there are 11 youth in the Wednesday program-the goal was 10. The extra day will make the new goal to service a total of 30 Elementary Emerging Leaders; 15 on Wednesday, and 15 on Thursday.

All programming is FREE of charge and provides group mentoring, prevention, and after school help.

The STEP Parenting Program is up and running, on Monday evenings! The Parenting Program is offered over an 8-week period, and is FREE of charge, to include the charge for books!

There are plenty of openings in the Middle School Monday Program! This program is FREE of charge, and runs from 3pm-6pm. The program provides homework help, life skills training, and the All-Stars Prevention Program.

There will be a MANDATORY Mentor Training for all interested in becoming a mentor, on December 18<sup>th</sup>, from 7pm-8:30pm. Attending the mandatory training is the first step, to becoming a mentor! Prospective mentors will go through a background check, and matching process, as well as monthly trainings.

\*In an effort to retain participants, we will need to be able to provide door prizes, snacks, etc. These items cannot be purchased with the funding we currently have in place. Without the "Miscellaneous Community Programs" line item, the Director of Community Services will need to seek supplemental funding from sources such as Wal-Mart to provide these items.

The Director of Community Services is working diligently to ensure the success of this program. With the change in staff, accurate reporting, assessments, advertising and training, it is evident that the minimum 10-15 hours weekly, from the Director of Community Services, will be needed-as mentioned in the initial program

write-up, in order to effectively and successfully, implement this program. Also, it is imperative that the Town look into other sources of funding to sustain program offering beyond that date; rather it be through seeking an AmeriCorps grant, or obtaining 501(c)3 status for the mentoring program to include and expand other community outreach such as ESOL classes, and Senior program offerings.

## **“39<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas-Holiday Parade”**

The Christmas-Holiday Parade will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013, at noon! The Christmas Tree Lighting will be held on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

The Army Old Fife and Drum Corps, and Quantico Marine Corps Band are confirmed for this event, as well as several organizations in the community!

### **Other Dates:**

12/7-Quantico Marine Band Saxophone Quartet will play during the Christmas Tree Lighting.

12/10-Quantico Marine Band Trombone Quartet will play at 6:30pm, in front of Town Hall.

## **Grants**

- Dumfries Cares/DCJS

## **ON-GOING ITEMS:**

### **Senior Luncheon**

The November Thanksgiving Luncheon was a huge success, and well attended by seniors in the community!

The Holiday Luncheon will be held on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at noon. Please note, that this luncheon WILL NOT be located at the Community Center. In an effort to comfortably fit everyone at the event, I have decided to change the location. It will be held at the Dumfries Triangle Rescue Squad, located at 3800 Graham Park Rd., Dumfries, VA 22026, from 1pm-2:30pm.

### **English as a Second Language**

The Town's FREE ESOL classes are offered on Tuesdays from 10am-noon, in the Community Center.

### **Community Partnerships**

- Literacy Volunteers of America-Prince William County-ESL classes (<https://sites.google.com/site/litvolpw/>)
- Sonia Hoehn-ESL Instructor.