

For Immediate Release
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Localities Recognizing May as Foster Care Month

Harrisonburg, Va. – The Harrisonburg Rockingham Social Services District (HRSSD) is joining a national movement in recognizing **May as National Foster Care Month**.

The organization hopes to bring awareness to the local foster care program and its needs in order to recruit more families to participate and also recognize those who help children and youth in foster care.

“There is a need within our very own community to increase the number of foster families,” said Celest Williams, assistant director of HRSSD. “Having additional foster families will contribute to our mission of promoting self-reliance and protection of citizens through community-based services.”

In Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, there are currently 71 foster homes. In 2014, with the support of local foster parents, HRSSD worked together and provided assistance to more than 270 children and their families with various needs.

The local foster care program is a service that provides a full range of casework, treatment and community services to a child who is abused or neglected. Placement in this program is intended to be a temporary solution.

“This is also an ideal time to thank the family services workers, foster families, mentors, faith leaders, advocates, family members, and organizations who are making a difference in the lives of children and youth currently receiving foster services care within our community,” said Becca Bowman, foster home coordinator at HRSSD.

Anyone interested in becoming a foster parent or those interested in additional information, may contact Becca Bowman, foster home coordinator, at 540-574-5155 or becca.bowman@dss.virginia.gov.

More information about HRSSD is available at www.RockinghamCountyVA.gov.

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