



NEWS RELEASE

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Carol S. Fox MAKING KIDS COUNT Award Winners Announced

Voices for Virginia's Children to present awards Oct. 7 at University of Richmond

RICHMOND, Va. – Voices for Virginia's Children has named the winners of the annual Carol S. Fox MAKING KIDS COUNT Awards. The awards are given annually to individuals and organizations making exemplary efforts to improve the lives of Virginia's children.

Dr. Joann Grayson, an avid child advocate and 30-year veteran psychology professor at James Madison University and the volunteer **Eastern Regional Child Fatality Review Team**, are this year's honorees.

Both were notified today, Aug.22, that they are the recipients, and they will receive their awards at the Carol S. Fox MAKING KIDS COUNT Award Reception at the University of Richmond Jepson Alumni Center on Oct. 7. Virginia Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam, a pediatric neurologist at Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters, is the keynote speaker.

Joann Grayson, Ph.D., is a professor emeritus at JMU and practicing clinical psychologist. During her career, she has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to child advocacy and has initiated more than 11 prevention programs in the Harrisonburg-Rockingham community including a tutoring program that partners JMU students with at-risk children. Grayson also publishes the "Virginia Child Protection Newsletter" distributed to 13,000 agencies and individuals nationwide.

The award to the **Eastern Regional Child Fatality Review Team** will be presented to Child Protective Services (CPS) Regional Consultant **Gail Heath Davidson** who leads the team. This core group of members provides services to families and children who may be involved in the investigation of child deaths. The team includes a director from Champions for Children, an assistant chief medical examiner, a pediatrician and social worker from The Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters, a retired CASA director, CPS supervisors, a health department nurse, Fetal-Infant Mortality Review nurses, a police captain, a Commonwealth's Attorney and a representative from Navy Family Advocacy.

About Voices for Virginia's Children

[Voices for Virginia's Children](#) is a statewide, independent, non-partisan policy research and advocacy organization that champions public policies to improve the lives of Virginia's children. Voices is home to the Virginia KIDS COUNT Data Center, which makes extensive data on child well-being available to Virginia leaders, policymakers and concerned citizens.

About the Carol S. Fox MAKING KIDS COUNT AWARD

The annual awards were first given in 2012 and are named in honor of [Carol Spaulding Fox](#), a

co-founder and long-time board member at Voices. In the course of her many years of dedicated service to Voices in a variety of leadership roles, Carol inspired Virginia citizens and organizations to speak out for children. Her dedication helped position Voices as a Virginia policy and advocacy leader, and inspired countless citizens and organizations to add their voices to the cause of improving the lives of children.

For information about attending or being a sponsor of the MAKING KIDS COUNT Awards Reception, go to www.vakids.org or contact [Cathy McCallister](#) at 804-649-0184.

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