Thank you for helping us celebrate 20 years of being the leading voice for Virginia’s children! 2014 has been an amazing year of looking back on our accomplishments and growth as an organization while continuing to champion public policies that improve the lives of Virginia’s kids. This newsletter highlights Voices’ special events that brought dedicated child advocates together this year.

You, our supporters and fellow child advocates, have been an integral part of all that we have done for children in our first two decades. We are excited to continue our work together in 2015: fighting to ensure ALL children in Virginia grow up with access to health care – including mental health care, high-quality child care and early education opportunities, and connections to loving families and supportive services even if they cannot be with their own families.

Your financial commitment to Voices is vital to helping us continue our efforts. Before we start the new year, please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to help us continue this important work in 2015.

We wish you and all the children you care about a joyful holiday season!

Margaret Nimmo Crowe, Executive Director
Voices for Virginia’s Children spread our mission to an enthusiastic audience of 40 people at a cocktail party in Roanoke in April. The event, hosted by former Board of Directors member Betty Carr Muse and current Board of Directors Vice-Chair Charlotte McNulty Kagey, celebrated Dr. Douglas Pierce and his winning of the 2013 Carol S. Fox Making Kids Count Award, and gave people who were unfamiliar with our work a chance to listen and ask direct questions. Former First Lady Jinks Holton delighted all with engaging and energetic remarks about why Voices is so important. This intimate gathering opened new doors for Voices in a very important part of the state.

September is a perfect month to gather at a winery, learn about a great organization, and bid on amazing items for a great cause. That is exactly what happened at “Vino for Voices.” Hosted by Board of Directors member Jamie Dyke Clancy at Prince Michel Vineyard and Winery, guests were treated to great wine, food by Shawn’s Smokehouse, and items at the silent auction. More than 40 people gathered to network, socialize, and hear the mission of Voices. Not only did Prince Michel sponsor this event, they also donated a portion of the cost of each wine tasting for the month of September to Voices. We would like to thank the committee and volunteers who were instrumental in organizing this event.

The Carol S. Fox Making Kids Count Awards Reception celebrated the Eastern Virginia Child Fatality Review Team and Dr. Joann Grayson for their tireless work and dedication to improving the lives of Virginia’s children. More than 120 people gathered to hear an encouraging message from Secretary of Education Anne Holton, watch a video message from Lt. Governor Ralph Northam, and learn about the important work of the two winners. The event was held at the Jepson Alumni Center on the campus of University of Richmond in October. Before the main program of the event, the winners and sponsors attended a VIP reception. Thanks to all the sponsors, attendees, and special guests for making this event exceptional.

In July, Voices was fortunate to hear rising opera star and Virginia native Ryan Speedo Green perform and tell his inspiring story. More than 70 guests attended to hear Speedo and his powerful bass-baritone voice, learn his incredible story, and witness the great work that Voices is doing in Northern Virginia. Senator Tim Kaine spoke to the importance of the work of Voices. A special thanks go to Jan and Elizabeth Lodal for opening their house, our wonderful Host Committee members, who were instrumental in making this event a success, and our sponsors for supporting this great night.

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Ryan Speedo Green shares his passion.