Dear Friends,

At Voices for Virginia’s Children, 2015 was a year of significant wins for children in public policy and funding related to early care and education and mental health, and included laying the groundwork for policy advances in 2016 in foster care and juvenile justice. We helped develop an electorate that is better informed about children’s issues by sponsoring a candidate forum in the pivotal 10th state Senate district last August. We also revamped our website, www.vakids.org, to make it easier to find the information you need about these issues, thanks to a generous capacity-building grant from the Meyer Foundation.

We are grateful for the growing support from individuals around the Commonwealth who recognize the importance of having an independent, data-driven voice for children at the State Capitol and beyond. In 2015, The Champions’ Circle, a group of donors who commit to give $1,000 or more for three consecutive years, grew from 8 to 16. We are also grateful for the ongoing support of many of our corporate and foundation partners, including the Annie E. Casey Foundation, which entrusts Voices with the Virginia Kids Count Data Center. Please take a moment to read the entire list of our generous supporters.

We have continued to lead advocacy efforts for children in 2016, and you can read more about our successful General Assembly session in this report. This year has also brought two staff changes at Voices. Our Kids Count Director, Ted Groves, passed away in March. Voices will honor his contributions by bestowing the Theodore R. Groves Memorial Award as part of our 2016 Carol S. Fox Making Kids Count Awards on October 5. Please learn more about the awards on our website, www.vakids.org.

We are also losing Senior Policy Attorney Amy Woolard after nearly five years of dedicated work on behalf of children in the foster care and juvenile justice systems. We will miss having her as part of our team but look forward to working with her as a partner in her new role at the Legal Aid Justice Center. This summer, we are recruiting for both of these positions and are confident we will add more talented professionals to our team.

We could not fight for Virginia’s children without the support of our outstanding Board of Directors, Council of Advisors, generous supporters, and partner organizations. Thank you for helping us make 2015 a year of important wins for kids.

Sincerely,

Jamie Dyke Clancey
Chair, Board of Directors

Margaret Nimmo Holland
Executive Director

WINS FOR KIDS IN THE 2016 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Voices for Virginia’s Children is the Commonwealth’s only multi-issue child advocacy organization. We work with policymakers on both sides of the aisle to advocate for laws and funding that improve the lives of Virginia’s children in critical ways. This year we experienced success for young children at-risk, for children of all ages who live with mental health challenges, and for youth involved in the foster care and juvenile justice systems. Thank you to our many organizational partners and the individual advocates who took time to contact their legislators or joined us at the Capitol on advocacy days!

**Early Childhood Home Visiting funding increased.** The Voices-led Early Childhood Policy Network championed the need to expand evidence-based home visiting programs for at-risk new families. An additional $13.5 million was allocated to support expansion of Healthy Families, CHIP of Virginia, and Resource Mothers.

**Why is this important?** Home visiting programs are shown to reduce incidences of child abuse and neglect, improve child health outcomes, and help connect parents to employment. Only 12% of the estimated 100,000 children in Virginia who are at-risk are currently being served by these two-generation interventions.

**Increased funding to support babies and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities.** Gov. McAuliffe proposed the General Assembly approved an additional $4.2 million in Part C intervention services so that Virginia can serve all babies and toddlers who are identified as having delays and disabilities.

**Why is this important?** Home visiting programs are shown to reduce incidences of child abuse and neglect, improve child health outcomes, and help connect parents to employment. Only 12% of the estimated 100,000 children in Virginia who are at-risk are currently being served by these two-generation interventions.

Guests at the Early Childhood Policy Network breakfast listened to legislators who support early childhood education.

Guest advocates spoke to legislative aides at Youth for RISE Lobby Day.

Del. Christopher K. Peace addressed students on foster care while other delegates waited their turn.

Youth advocates spoke to legislative aides at Youth for RISE Lobby Day.

Indians from around the state gathered on Mental Health Advocacy Day.
other states point to more effective and efficient alternatives to protect public safety and reduce recidivism. Juvenile Justice’s latest three-year re-conviction rate for youth committed and released from a juvenile prison is 73.5%. Research and experience from for minor offenses, and youth of color are much more likely to be incarcerated than white youth who commit the same offenses. The Department of Why is this important? From 2008 to 2015, more than 5375 youth “aged out” of Virginia’s foster care system with no permanent family connections; Children’s Mental Health has been advocating to increase their availability ever since. Crisis response services were the two most important and most lacking mental health services throughout the Commonwealth, and the Campaign for Children’s Mental Health has been advocating to increase their availability ever since. Why is this important? An estimated 130,000 children and youth in Virginia live with a serious mental health disorder, but many are not able to access the care they need. A 2011 study by the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services found that child psychiatry and crisis response services were the two most important and most lacking mental health services throughout the Commonwealth, and the Campaign for Children’s Mental Health has been advocating to increase their availability ever since. Why is this important? From 2008 to 2015, more than 5375 youth “aged out” of Virginia’s foster care system with no permanent family connections; Virginia has the worst rank in the country on this measure. Without help, one in five of these youth will become homeless, only 58% of them will graduate high school by age 19 (compared to 87% of general population), and one in four will become involved in the criminal justice system within two years of turning 18. Foster care program adopted. For the last three years, Voices has led the effort to have Virginia adopt this program, which will provide state and matching federal funds to assist youth who age out of Virginia’s foster care system at age 18 without any permanent family connections. Funds are used for critical housing and casework support, as well as other independent living assistance for youth ages 18-21 who are working and/or in school, helping them achieve stability and independence. Why is this important? Despite progress, Virginia’s juvenile justice system is still serving too many youth who are not serious offenders, and it is costly, unfair, and ineffective. Many youth in the state’s facilities are there for minor offenses, and youth of color are much more likely to be incarcerated than white youth who commit the same offenses. The Department of Juvenile Justice’s latest three-year re-conviction rate for youth committed and released from a juvenile prison is 73.5%. Research and experience from other states point to more effective and efficient alternatives to protect public safety and reduce recidivism. LAST YEAR’S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

52% increase in funding for child psychiatry and children’s mental health crisis response services. Through our Campaign for Children’s Mental Health, Voices has been advocating for increasing the capacity of communities to provide mental health services for children and youth. For the fifth year in a row, due to Voices’ persistence, the General Assembly allocated additional resources for these two core services; the total allocation to communities will be more than $10 million in state fiscal year 2018.

Voices for Virginia’s Children introduced its first ever major gifts society in 2014. With eight inaugural members, The Champions’ Circle provided an opportunity for child advocates to help build a reliable base of support for our current and future work. To join The Champions’ Circle, members make a three-year financial commitment of $1,000 or more. This commitment provides Voices with the stability and flexibility to respond to the emerging needs of the Commonwealth’s children. It ensures that Voices remains the leading independent, non-partisan advocate for children at the State Capitol. As you know, Voices operates entirely through private funding, enabling us to put the interests of Virginia’s children first.

To learn more about The Champions’ Circle, contact Michael Brown, Director of Development at 804-649-0184 ext. 22 or michael@vakids.org.

Foster care advocates met with the youth during Foster Care Advocacy Day. Youth and foster care champions spoke about the Importance of the Fostering Futures program at the General Assembly. Sen. Frank Ruff spoke with the youth on their concerns for the current juvenile justice system.

Champions’ Circle Spotlight

Voices for Virginia’s Children introduced its first ever major gifts society in 2014. With eight inaugural members, The Champions’ Circle provided an opportunity for child advocates to help build a reliable base of support for our current and future work. To join The Champions’ Circle, members make a three-year financial commitment of $1,000 or more. This commitment provides Voices with the stability and flexibility to respond to the emerging needs of the Commonwealth’s children. It ensures that Voices remains the leading independent, non-partisan advocate for children at the State Capitol. As you know, Voices operates entirely through private funding, enabling us to put the interests of Virginia’s children first.

To learn more about The Champions’ Circle, contact Michael Brown, Director of Development at 804-649-0184 ext. 22 or michael@vakids.org.

The Champions’ Circle Spotlight

Voices for Virginia’s Children introduced its first ever major gifts society in 2014. With eight inaugural members, The Champions’ Circle provided an opportunity for child advocates to help build a reliable base of support for our current and future work. To join The Champions’ Circle, members make a three-year financial commitment of $1,000 or more. This commitment provides Voices with the stability and flexibility to respond to the emerging needs of the Commonwealth’s children. It ensures that Voices remains the leading independent, non-partisan advocate for children at the State Capitol. As you know, Voices operates entirely through private funding, enabling us to put the interests of Virginia’s children first.

To learn more about The Champions’ Circle, contact Michael Brown, Director of Development at 804-649-0184 ext. 22 or michael@vakids.org.

Why is this important? An estimated 130,000 children and youth in Virginia live with a serious mental health disorder, but many are not able to access the care they need. A 2011 study by the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services found that child psychiatry and crisis response services were the two most important and most lacking mental health services throughout the Commonwealth, and the Campaign for Children’s Mental Health has been advocating to increase their availability ever since.

Why is this important? Despite progress, Virginia’s juvenile justice system is still serving too many youth who are not serious offenders, and it is costly, unfair, and ineffective. Many youth in the state’s facilities are there for minor offenses, and youth of color are much more likely to be incarcerated than white youth who commit the same offenses. The Department of Juvenile Justice’s latest three-year re-conviction rate for youth committed and released from a juvenile prison is 73.5%. Research and experience from other states point to more effective and efficient alternatives to protect public safety and reduce recidivism.

Champions’ Circle Spotlight

Voices for Virginia’s Children introduced its first ever major gifts society in 2014. With eight inaugural members, The Champions’ Circle provided an opportunity for child advocates to help build a reliable base of support for our current and future work. To join The Champions’ Circle, members make a three-year financial commitment of $1,000 or more. This commitment provides Voices with the stability and flexibility to respond to the emerging needs of the Commonwealth’s children. It ensures that Voices remains the leading independent, non-partisan advocate for children at the State Capitol. As you know, Voices operates entirely through private funding, enabling us to put the interests of Virginia’s children first.

To learn more about The Champions’ Circle, contact Michael Brown, Director of Development at 804-649-0184 ext. 22 or michael@vakids.org.

Why is this important? An estimated 130,000 children and youth in Virginia live with a serious mental health disorder, but many are not able to access the care they need. A 2011 study by the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services found that child psychiatry and crisis response services were the two most important and most lacking mental health services throughout the Commonwealth, and the Campaign for Children’s Mental Health has been advocating to increase their availability ever since.

Why is this important? Despite progress, Virginia’s juvenile justice system is still serving too many youth who are not serious offenders, and it is costly, unfair, and ineffective. Many youth in the state’s facilities are there for minor offenses, and youth of color are much more likely to be incarcerated than white youth who commit the same offenses. The Department of Juvenile Justice’s latest three-year re-conviction rate for youth committed and released from a juvenile prison is 73.5%. Research and experience from other states point to more effective and efficient alternatives to protect public safety and reduce recidivism.
$100,000 - $1,000,000
The Annie E. Casey Foundation

$25,000 - $99,999
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
Community Foundation of the National Capital Region
Consumer Health Foundation
The Meyer Foundation
Partnership for America’s Children
The Robins Foundation
Tidewater Community Foundation
Washington Area Women’s Foundation

$5,000 - $24,999
AT&T
Box Sectors Health System
Casey Family Programs
Chathamville Area Community Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Chinn
Dominion Foundation
Dominion Resources Services, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. J. Carter Fox
Mr. and Mrs. Margaret Freeman
Inova Health System
Loughran Foundation
Memorial Foundation for Children

$1,000 - $4,999
Actuarial Benefits & Design Company
B2L Consulting, LLC
Dr. and Mrs. E.J. Brown
Mr. and Mrs. J.P. Caustie
Childcare Aware of Virginia
Dominion Payroll Services
Ms. Stefanie Erickstein
Family Lifeline
David and Grace Gallagher
Dr. and Mrs. J. Hare
Dr. Mavis Hetherington
Dr. Brenda Tanner and Mr. Russell James
The Honorable Timothy Kaine and The Honorable Anne Holton
Dr. Leslie Kaplan and Dr. William Dwiggins
Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Kinghtley
Ms. Maria Kerlin
Brigitte Laverty
Ms. Mary Less
Dr. William J. Kagen and Mrs. Charlotte McNulty Kagey
MVC Foundation
Dr. and Mrs. John R. Morgan
Mr. and Mrs. Ali Moss
Mr. William Murray and Mrs. Jean Hovey
Newport News Parks and Recreation
Mr. and Mrs. Jan Nimmo
Mr. and Mrs. John Purnell, Jr.
R.E.B. Foundation
Rudby & Co. Communications and Marketing Inc.
The Honorable and Mr. Richard Saslaw
The Honorable and Mrs. Elott Schewel
Ms. Joyce Shields
Dr. and Mrs. Don Switz
The Honorable Eva Teig Hardy and Mr. Michael Hardy
Mr. Edward Villanueva
Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Wilt

$500 - $999
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson
Mr. and Mrs. James Glancy
The Community Foundation Serving Richmond & Central Virginia
Mr. Robert Daguer and Ms. Joan Huffer
Fletcher and Mary Frances Low
Mr. and Mrs. James Mallory
Dr. and Mrs. S.F. Royal
Dip of Virginia
Ms. and Mr. Richard Tidman
Mr. and Mrs. James Upton
United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg
Ms. Rachel Unkefer
Washington Gas
Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas West IV
Winstead Oil

$100 - $499
Brigadier General Clara Adams-Ender
Dr. Cheryl and K. Baker Alleine
Mr. Victor Amoreno
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Arrington
Ms. N. Michelle Arthur
Ms. Nathalia Atunga
The Honorable and Mrs. Ralph Axelle
Ms. Cecilia Barbosa
F.J. and Mary S. Barnes
Mr. Kathleen Barrett
Mr. and Mrs. Huay Battle
Dr. and Mrs. Wyatt Beazley
The Benevolent Community Impact Fund of American Endowment Foundation
Ms. Maria Brown
Dr. Robyn and Richard Brown
Dr. Rosemary Burton

$99 AND BELOW
Ms. Michelle Gabanes
Mr. and Mrs. G.W. Cain
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Doyle
Ms. Margaret Nimmo Downe
Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Corda
Mr. Joseph Daniel
Mr. John Davies
Ms. Janica Davis
Mr. and Mrs. James Dyke
Dr. and Mrs. John Edmonds
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Fornash
Frederickburg Public Schools
Ms. Kinja Gararin
Dr. and Mrs. Henry Gayevsky
Mr. James Gospels
Mr. Shafir Evens and Ms. Emily Griffoy
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Griffoy
Dr. William Habeek
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Hamatta
Ms. and Mrs. Brett Hawkins
Ms. Melissa Hays-Smith
Heart Sing Foundation
The Honorable and Mrs. A.L. Holton
Ms. Leila Hopper
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Joyce
Brad Katus
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kauders
Ms. Rebecca Kiefer
Ms. Anne Lawson
Dr. Deborah Leiderman
Mr. and Mrs. Phil Leon
Ms. Marjorie Lewis
Mr. Rust Haal Little
Mr. and Mrs. Askan Luxmoore
Ms. Amanda Macalay
Dr. and Joseph Marucci
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Maniates
Ms. Bryna May
Mr. and Mrs. Mark McCallister
Ms. Julie McCellan
Ms. A. Phoebe Meyer
Dr. Francesco Meyer and Mr. Stephen L. Meyer
The Honorable William Mihi
Dr. Norma Murdoch-Kitt and Mr. Jonathan Murdoch-Kitt
Ms. Rupali Murthy
Mrs. Elizabeth Muse
Ms. Jane Newell
The Honorable John O’Bannon, III
Ms. Phyllis Olin
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Olivier
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Olson
Rev. James Payne
Mrs. Laura Pedebrue
Ms. Nina Pflinn
The Honorable and Mrs. Kenneth Plum

$100 - $499 cont.
Ms. Michelle Rafferty
Mr. and Mrs. Karen Raskie
Mr. Mark Rubin and Ms. Debbie Dowalt
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ryan
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Scheir
Ms. Johanna Schuchert
Mr. and Mrs. S. Butler Scott
Dr. and Mrs. Javad Siddqi
Mr. Margaret Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Ken Smithler
Mr. and Mrs. Dagobert Steegel
Dr. Nicole Spears
Mr. and Mrs. James Stewart
Mr. and Mrs. James Waterman
Dr. Melvin Wilson
Wolf Run Foundation

$99 AND BELOW
Ms. Stacey Hawkins Adams
Ms. Wanda Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Aziz
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Ballowe
Mr. and Mrs. Marilyn Barratt
Ms. Marilyn Barrow
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bates
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bidwell
Ms. Sandy Boone
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Brookman
Ms. Angela Brown
Mr. and Mrs. John Case
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cavithome
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Cohen
Mr. Peter Conklin
Ms. Cynthia Edwards
Ms. Ashley Evette
Ms. Melissa Ferrel
Mr. Scott Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Gallagher
Mr. Mary Gallagher
Dr. and Mrs. Norman Geller
Dr. Joanna Grayson and Mr. Phil Grayson
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Groves
Ms. Meredith Handakas
Ms. Mary Hanrahan
Ms. Margaret Harris
Ms. Sandra Haydlett
Ms. Cindy Hedges
Ms. Ann Hess
Mr. and Mrs. Alice Hill
Mr. Max Holland
Mr. Robert Holland
Mr. James Houglad
Ms. Margaret Hu
Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Inde
Ms. Nikki Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jonas
Ms. Kate Longest
Mr. and Mrs. Bill McBride
Mr. and Mrs. John Mistak
Dr. and Mrs. William Moskowitz
Mr. Jim Nafsigar
Ms. Barbara Pfeifle
Dr. and Mrs. Douglas Pierce
Mr. and Mrs. William Plassner
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Pretz
Dr. Laurie Rimie and Ms. Barbara Rennie
Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Repucci
Dr. and Mrs. William Schotanus
Mr. Paul Scott
Ms. Hannah Serft
Dr. Dylan Shoodles
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shiner
Mr. and Mrs. William Smith
Ms. Danuta Syska
Ms. Shannon Taylor
Ms. Laurice Tecker
Ms. Carole Todd
Tom Leonard’s Farmer’s Market
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wallmeyer
Ms. Ann Wanshauer
Ms. Janice Woodard
Mr. Amy Woodard
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Wright
The Honorable and Mrs. Archer Yeatts

IN KIND DONORS
Audrey Driggers
Kelly McBride
Lolipop Station
Jim and Ellen Dyke
Medapond
Minneman Press
Arby’s
Country Club of Cuperberg
Prince Michel Winery
Segway Tours of Richmond
Bookbinders
CeCo Studio
Christine Smika
Powell Wellness Center
Copper Fish
Thyme Market
Cindy Cannon
Jamie Dyke Glancy

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBERS
Chairman
John C. Purnell, Jr.
Vice Chairman
Jamie Dyke Glancy
Secretary
Leslie S. Kaplan, EdD
Treasurer
James C. Wilson

COUNCIL OF ADVISORS
Chair
Carol S. Fox
The Honorable James W. Dyke, Jr.
The Honorable Evan Ting Highy
The Honorable William C. Mims
Eleanor B. Saslaw
Mr. James Stewart, III

The Honorable and Mr. John Thomas West IV
Washington Gas
The Honorable and Mrs. John Thomas West IV
Winstead Oil

IN KIND DONORS
Audrey Driggers
Kelly McBride
Lolipop Station
Jim and Ellen Dyke
Medapond
Minneman Press
Arby’s
Country Club of Cuperberg
Prince Michel Winery
Segway Tours of Richmond
Bookbinders
CeCo Studio
Christine Smika
Powell Wellness Center
Copper Fish
Thyme Market
Cindy Cannon
Jamie Dyke Glancy

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBERS
Chairman
John C. Purnell, Jr.
Vice Chairman
Jamie Dyke Glancy
Secretary
Leslie S. Kaplan, EdD
Treasurer
James C. Wilson

COUNCIL OF ADVISORS
Chair
Carol S. Fox
The Honorable James W. Dyke, Jr.
The Honorable Evan Ting Highy
The Honorable William C. Mims
Eleanor B. Saslaw
Mr. James Stewart, III

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBERS
Chairman
John C. Purnell, Jr.
Vice Chairman
Jamie Dyke Glancy
Secretary
Leslie S. Kaplan, EdD
Treasurer
James C. Wilson

COUNCIL OF ADVISORS
Chair
Carol S. Fox
The Honorable James W. Dyke, Jr.
The Honorable Evan Ting Highy
The Honorable William C. Mims
Eleanor B. Saslaw
Mr. James Stewart, III

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBERS
Chairman
John C. Purnell, Jr.
Vice Chairman
Jamie Dyke Glancy
Secretary
Leslie S. Kaplan, EdD
Treasurer
James C. Wilson

COUNCIL OF ADVISORS
Chair
Carol S. Fox
The Honorable James W. Dyke, Jr.
The Honorable Evan Ting Highy
The Honorable William C. Mims
Eleanor B. Saslaw
Mr. James Stewart, III
SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, October 5, 2016
Richmond, Virginia

Carol S. Fox
Making Kids Count Award

Please Join Us for a Special Evening to Benefit Voices for Virginia’s Children

Voices Uplifted!
A Celebration of the Improbable Journey of Opera’s Ryan Speedo Green

As Chronicled by Daniel Bergner in Sing for Your Life

December 12, 2016
The Barns at Wolf Trap
1635 Trap Road
Vienna, Virginia 22182
7 p.m. Program
8 p.m. Reception
$95 • Limited seating available!

For tickets and details call 804.649.0189, ext. 22 or email michael@vakids.org.

Our mission is to champion public policies that improve the lives of Virginia’s children.

701 East Franklin Street, Suite 807
Richmond, Virginia 23219
804.649.0184 • vakids.org