

Windy Hill Community Resident Services

May/June 2018

Submitted by: Claire Louis, Director of Programs



Super Explorers. Study Buddies Tutor Lucy Bernstein introduces a Study Buddy to a critter from Goose Creek during the annual Creek Stomp.

Overview:

May and June marked the end of the school year in Fauquier and Loudoun Counties respectively, and when school is out, Resident Services is open. Summer on the Hill, our drop-in summer day camp for resident children, saw the highest number of registrants ever, when more than approximately 25% of all resident children signed up to attend.

Highlights:

Building on new partnerships in Fauquier County, we completed our initial year working with The Plains Community League's Tutoring Program which provided 26 students from Coleman Elementary and Marshall Middle Schools with one-on-one tutoring for the entire school year.

We also co-staffed a week-long Fauquier County Schools Literacy Camp at Marshall Community Center for selected students from Claude Thompson Elementary and Marshall Middle Schools and encouraged our children to visit weekly with Fauquier County Library's Books on the Bus during its visits to the John Page Turner Community House in The Plains, and Marshall Community Center. We also co-hosted a Community Dinner with the Path Foundation for Windy Hill Community residents who live in Fauquier County.



Splashing Into Summer! Students from The Plains Community League's (TPCL) Tutoring Program Celebrate the End of the School Year at TPCL's Annual Pool Party.

In Middleburg, we completed another great year of Study Buddies with five Buddies moving up to the NetWorks Program at Blue Ridge Middle School in the Fall. We also enjoyed the annual "Creek Stomp" Study Buddies field trip courtesy of long-time tutor Lucy Bernstein and the Virginia Master Naturalists. NetWorks ended its pilot year with three of the four children moving up to Loudoun Valley High School connected to ongoing mentoring through either the CAMPUS program or varsity sports. Keeping the 100% graduation rate going, Sapphire Cherry, Enmanuel Ibarra Mendoza, and Anthony Shaphat joined the proud list of Loudoun Valley High School alumni from the Windy Hill Community on June 14.

May and June also offered Middleburg's Older Adults an opportunity to participate in a 6-week Live Well! With Diabetes Workshop, offered by the Loudoun County Area Agency on Aging. About 25% of the U.S. population over age 65 has diabetes, and the rate at Levis Hill House is almost triple the National rate. Live Well! With Diabetes teaches those with diabetes or caring for someone with diabetes which interventions have been proven effective and how to best

manage the condition. This can have a significant impact on reducing the use of emergency services and the disease management costs.

At Shreveport Ridge, we partnered with Grace Community Church for an end-of-school community picnic, debuted a Community Food Share Table to distribute donated food and produce from Dulles South Food Pantry, Panera Bread, and Loudoun Hunger Relief, and debuted Family Fun Nights once a month.

Opportunities for Best Practice:

Across all sites, all Resident Services staff became certified in CPR and First Aid for both children and adults and distributed bi-weekly food bags to help to abate summer hunger when school aged children no longer have access to school breakfasts and lunches. We also partnered with the Middleburg Community Center, Loudoun Hunger Relief, Loudoun Office of Tourism and the American Society of Association Executives volunteers to host a Pop-Up Food Pantry that produced enough food bags for every household in the entire Windy Hill Community.



Volunteers from American Society of Association Executives Deliver Food Bags to Llewellyn Village.

Challenges:

Growing often brings with it some pains, and this summer is no exception. The extremely high demand of the new families at Washburn Place and the families at Shreveport Ridge who had no summer programming for the last three years has severely strained Resident Services' mostly part-time staff. Trying to meet the needs of so many residents in less than eight hours a day often results in staff working more hours than those that are paid.

The growth has also created pain as we try to ensure that all residents have access to transportation for programs. Each day of Summer on the Hill requires both Windy Hill Foundation buses for roundtrip camper transportation. We schedule all Older Adult field trips – Walmart, Food Lion, local parks and museums – around the AM and PM camp runs and twice a week Camp field trips. Unfortunately, that means that Shreveport Ridge Campers rarely get to go anywhere.

Accordingly, Shreveport Ridge was dealt a major setback when Christian Fellowship Church in Ashburn abruptly withdrew their support of that community after committing volunteer and transportation resources for two major community events. While we continue to actively seek out new partner organizations, their unexpected departure left a huge hole in our summer programming. This challenge has allowed us to think outside the box and step out of our comfort zone to foster partnerships with nontraditional resources like restaurant owners, grocery stores, community groups.

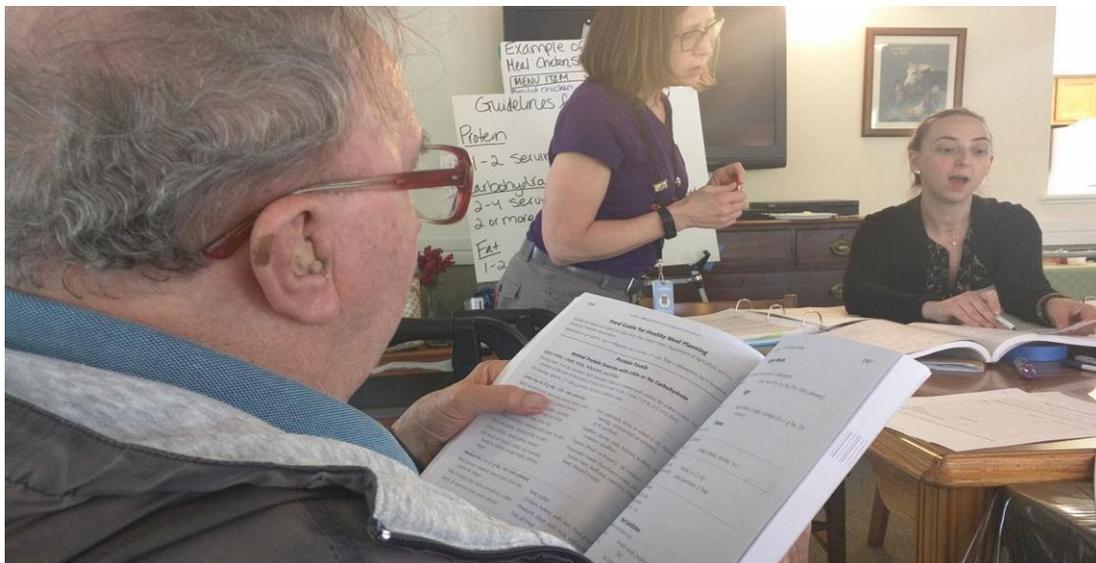


Girl Power! Shreveport Ridge's Girl Scout Troop Meets to Plan Activities.

Community Partners:

In May and June, WHF residents benefitted from the following partnerships:

- Blue Ridge Area Foodbank donated 2,300 lbs. of shelf stable food.
- American Society of Association Executives donated 2,260 lbs. of shelf stable food.
- Panera donated 700 lbs. of bread and baked goods.
- Loudoun Hunger Relief donated 50 lbs. of produce.
- Dulles South Food Pantry provided snacks for 30 children during Afterschool Programs.
- Seven Loaves donated 1,000 lbs. of food to six “shut-in” residents and community families.
- The Path Foundation hosted a dinner for WHF Fauquier County residents.
- Community Volunteers donated 14 hours of tutoring to 14 elementary school students.
- Department of Family Services donated eight hours of social services.
- Loudoun County Area Agency on Aging donated 20 hrs. of health education.
- Middleburg Academy provided 5 hours of tutoring to 14 elementary school students.
- The Plains Community League Tutors provided 96 hours of tutoring to 26 students.
- Middleburg Baptist Church provided two dinners for WHF Middleburg residents.
- Willisville Chapel donated lunch for all 20 of our residents and provided 24 hours of Bible Study, plus an additional 11 hours of volunteer support for Summer on the Hill.
- Wolf Trap Foundation donated 20 tickets to Summer on the Hill.
- Children’s Science Center donated 10 tickets to Summer on the Hill.
- Mobile Hope of Loudoun provided 2 hours of community free clothing distribution to 98 units in Shreveport Ridge.



Living Well. Older Adults Learn New Strategies to Deal with Diabetes from Loudoun’s Area Agency on Aging staff.