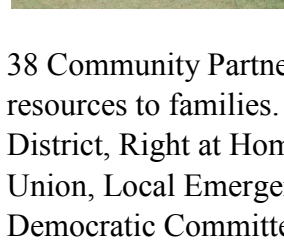


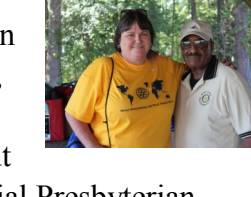


3rd ANNUAL PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR

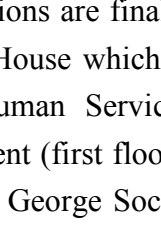
On August 27th, Prince George held it's 3rd Annual Back to School Fair in Scott Park. Free school supplies were provided to Prince George County school aged children . All school supplies were donated or purchased with donated funds. Over 800 backpacks were prepared for the event by volunteers from The Woman's Club of Prince George, Prince George Rotary, Public School and County staff, and students.



38 Community Partners joined the event to provide information on community resources to families. Partners included Prince George Promise, Crater Health District, Right at Home Care, Peoples Advantage Credit Union, Local Emergency Planning Committee, PG Democratic Committee, Voter Registrar, Senior Navigator, Smart Beginnings, PG Public Schools, PG Special Olympics, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Central VA Health Services, BBQ Bliss, and PG County Government offices.



Donations were proved by Food Lion, John Randolph Foundation, Jessica Ann Moore Foundation, Kenneth Robinson, Prince George High School, Prince George Schools, CoGentrix/ James River Genco, Drop out Degree Program, Shiloh Baptist Church, Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church, Helen Jones, Helen Hoover, PG Democratic Committee, Bank of McKenney, the 345th TRS, Pack 902, and members of the Prince George Rotary.



Thank you to the many hands and hearts that make this event a success. Now we start planning for the 4th Annual Back to School Fair to be held Wednesday, August 26, 2015!

Human Services Building Renovations Completed!

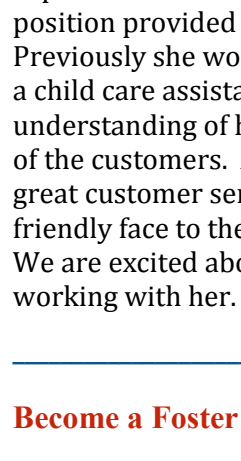
The Prince George County Human Services Building renovations are finally complete. Final touches are being put in place for an Open House which is being planned for November 4th. The Prince George Human Services Building is now home for the Prince George Health Department (first floor), the 6th District Court Services Unit (first floor), and Prince George Social Services (second floor).

Prince George Promise Awards Grant to Social Services

The Prince George Department of Social Services recently received a Prince George Promise Grant in the amount of \$955. The primary goal of the grant is to screen 25 children ages 0 to 5 for developmental delays. The ASQ-3 (Ages and Stages Questionnaire) and the ASQ-SE (Ages and Stages Social Emotional Questionnaire) is the primary screening tool that will be utilized. This screening tool was selected as it is already in use by Healthy Families, Smart Beginnings of Hopewell/Prince George, a local pediatric practice and the Prince George Department of Social Services. The tool is designed to screen young children for developmental delays and identify those children in need of a comprehensive evaluation. The Prince George Department of Social Services is partnering with Hopewell/Prince George Smart Beginnings program in an effort to increase screening efforts in Prince George County. For more information please contact Libby Vinsh, Services Supervisor.

Benefits Unit welcomes Gerald Sanders, Benefit Program Specialist

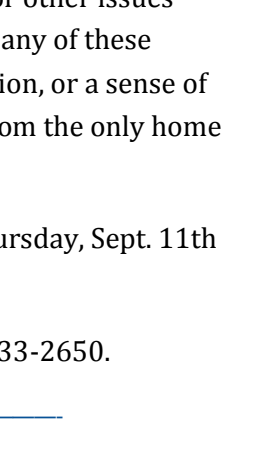
Join the Benefit Programs Unit in welcoming Gerald Sanders as the newest member to the team. His main responsibilities will be determining eligibility for applicants who are Aged, Blind and Disable for the Medicaid and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and managing their ongoing needs.



He comes to us from Richmond City and also has experience with the City of Petersburg Department of Social Services. Gerald is a long time resident of Prince George County and a graduate of PGHS.

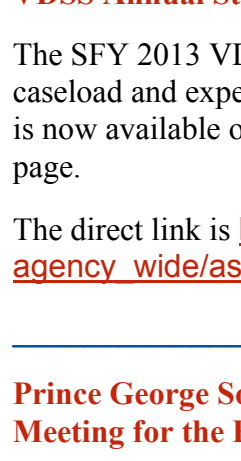
Administrative team welcomes Alexia Falkner, Office Associate

August 1, 2014, Alexia Falkner joined the Administrative team. She has extensive experience in working with the public. Her most recent position provided administrative support at Ferrum College. Previously she worked for Social Services in Florida carrying a child care assistance eligibility caseload. Alexia has a great understanding of how the front office functions and the needs of the customers. Along with years of work experience and great customer service abilities, she brings a warm and friendly face to the front desk to help serve our customers. We are excited about all she brings and look forward to working with her. Welcome aboard Alexia!!



Become a Foster Parent

Foster parents provide a temporary, safe home for children in crisis. Children who need foster families have been removed from their birth family homes for reasons of neglect, abuse, abandonment, or other issues endangering their health and/or safety. Many of these children are filled with fear, anger, confusion, or a sense of powerlessness at having been removed from the only home they have ever known.

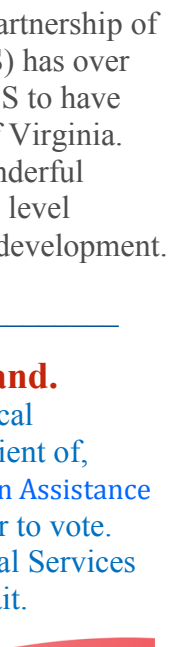


Prince George Foster Parent Training: Thursday, Sept. 11th @ 6PM

Contact Theaster Smith or Zina Gaines for more information 733-2650.

Prince George Farmer's Market Continues through Fall

The Prince George Farmer's Market will continue to operate each Saturday from 8:00 am until noon. The final Market is scheduled for October 11th. The Market now accepts credit/ debit cards and EBT cards for SNAP recipients. Please visit the Market at the Scott Park Pavilion.



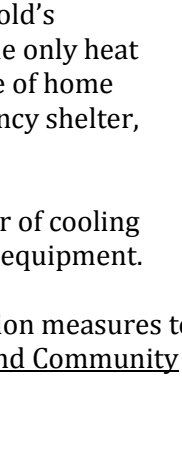
VDSS Annual Statistical Report showing Statewide Trends is available.

The SFY 2013 VDSS Annual Statistical Report, showing statewide trend in caseload and expenditures by program, as well as other program information, is now available on the VDSS public web site, on the "Reports & Studies" page.

The direct link is http://www.dss.virginia.gov/geninfo/reports/agency_wide/asr.cgi.

Prince George Social Services will host quarterly POSSESS Meeting for the Eastern Region

During the month of September, Prince George Social Services will host the POSSESS Eastern Region quarterly meeting. The Partnership of Office Services Support Employees in Social Services (POSSESS) has over 200 members spanning the five regions. It is the goal of POSSESS to have members representing each of the 120 agencies across the state of Virginia. This is an opportunity for office support staff to be a part of a wonderful organization where shared ideas and camaraderie among the local level employees can be developed to provide support and professional development.



We Can Sit in Silence. Or We Can Take A Stand.

The National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) of 1993 requires local departments of social services to offer each applicant for, or recipient of, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Medicaid an opportunity to apply to register to vote.

You may register to vote at Prince George Department of Social Services

Ask for a registration form and fill it out while you wait.

Our staff is here to help!



ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

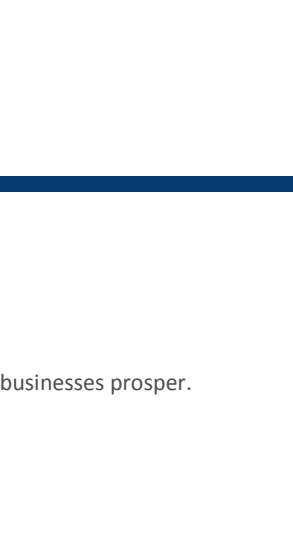
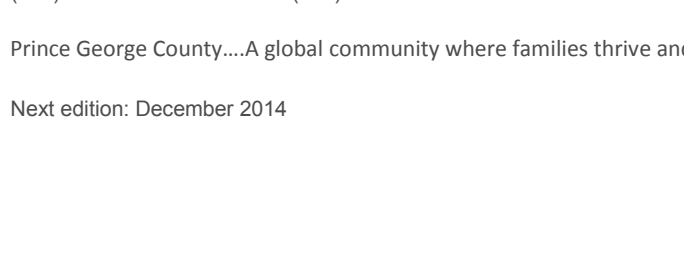
The Energy Assistance (EA) Program assists low-income households in meeting their immediate home energy needs. To be eligible, households must have a heating or cooling expense and gross monthly income may not exceed 130 percent of the federal poverty level. Applications for fuel, crisis, and cooling assistance are accepted at the local departments of social services. The EA Program consists of four components:

- **Fuel Assistance:** This program primarily provides assistance with purchasing home heating fuel and paying primary heat utility bills.
- **Crisis Assistance:** This program is intended to meet a household's emergency heating need. Assistance offered includes one-time only heat security deposit, portable heater for temporary use, purchase of home heating fuel, payment of heat utility bill, payment for emergency shelter, and/or heating equipment repair/purchase.
- **Cooling Assistance:** This program provides purchase or repair of cooling equipment and/or payment for electricity to operate cooling equipment.
- **Weatherization Assistance:** This program applies air infiltration measures to the housing structure. The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) administers this component.

Fuel Assistance Program will be taking application beginning October 9th – November 10th

Placing babies on their backs to sleep saves lives.

- ♥ The safest place for your baby to sleep is in his or her own crib or bassinet and not in bed with you.
- ♥ Your baby's sleeping area should be free of stuffed animals and other toys as well as pillows and fluffy blankets.
- ♥ Bear in mind that not everyone knows that babies should always nap and sleep on their backs.
- ♥ Make sure you discuss safe sleep practices with anyone who will care for your infant. Here's why: one in five Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) deaths happen while a baby is being cared for by someone other than a parent.
- ♥ Many of these deaths occur when babies are placed to sleep on their stomachs.
- ♥ Babies up to 1-year-old can die from SIDS, although it is most common among infants between one and four months of age.
- ♥ Some babies are at greater risk. African- American and Native-American babies die from SIDS at a higher rate compared to white babies.
- ♥ Another way to reduce your infant's risk is by using a firm mattress with a fitted sheet.
- ♥ Dress your child lightly for bed to keep him or her from getting too hot.
- ♥ Keep the crib in a smoke-free space.
- ♥ Don't place babies to sleep on adult beds, sofas, chairs, waterbeds, pillows, or cushions.



IT'S NOT WORTH IT

In 2013, 44 child fatalities in the U.S. resulted from leaving a child in a hot car. Temperatures can rise as much as 19 degrees in 10 minutes in an enclosed vehicle. Even when temperatures are only 70, car windows act like a greenhouse and temperatures can reach 125 degrees quickly. Take children with you when you leave the car, or don't make the stop; it's just not worth the risk.



Need to apply for Medicaid? Here's how:



Online
Through CommonHelp at
commonhelp.virginia.gov



By Paper
Through your Local
Department of Social
Services



By Phone
Through Cover Virginia
1-855-242-8282

If you or an individual you know may be eligible for coverage, encourage them to apply today.

To apply for any benefits program : SNAP, TANF, Energy Assistance :

WWW.COMMONHELP.VIRGINIA.GOV

Prince George Social Services Office Closings:

Prince George Social Services will be closed for the following holidays during the next quarter:

- Monday, October 13– Columbus Day
- Tuesday, November 11– Veteran's Day
- Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28– Thanksgiving
- Wednesday, December 24 and Thursday, December 25– Christmas
- Thursday, January 1– New Years

Prince George Department of Social Services
socialsvcs@princegeorgecountyva.gov
6450 Administration Drive, Prince George, VA 23875

(804) 733-2650 fax (804)733-2652

Prince George County...A global community where families thrive and businesses prosper.

Next edition: December 2014