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NEWS YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO... and that's a FACT!

Donors and Granters- VB Youth Service Club and Hampton Roads Community Foundation

FACT and our roster of athletes with ASD are truly grateful for our 2020 sports program sponsors: the Virginia Beach Youth Services Club (YSC) and the Jennifer Lynn Gray Fund of the Hampton Roads Community Foundation (HRCF). Last week on Facebook Live, Mark told us how much his twin teenage boys with autism enjoyed our GonnawannaBowagin' league. They've been participating since 2015 and met their best friend and teammate there. Now they're the three musketeers!

In this age of video streaming and social media, we could all use a little more physical activity. For our friends with autism, team sports offer much more than fitness. Being part of a team teaches collaboration, social skills, and communication. Best of all, being part of a team and learning new skills increases self-esteem and confidence. This year FACT will host basketball, soccer and kickball clinics and two ten-week bowling leagues. We couldn't offer these programs without the support of the YSC and the HRCF.



YSC and FACT board members and staff gathered at Pinboy's bowling to award the \$5,000 grant



Ben, Corey, and Chris- the three musketeers who met at bowling

Support the YSC and FACT by attending this years Pig & Oyster Roast
[click HERE for tickets](#)

YSOC
and
Kempsville
proudly presents
2020

49TH ANNUAL PIG OYSTER BASH
AT CAMP PENDLETON

TICKET PRICE \$60.00 PER PERSON
WHEN SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020
WHERE CAMP PENDLETON
TIME 1:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M. [RAIN OR SHINE, GATES OPEN AT 1:00 P.M.]

ENTERTAINMENT THE PIEDMONT BOYS & THE JAKE BARTLEY BAND

BUY YOUR TICKETS ONLINE AT VBYSO.ORG.

VIRGINIA BEACH
YSOC
ESTABLISHED 1971

FIND US ON
facebook
AND
instagram

HOFFMAN BEVERAGE
ALL TICKET SALES FINAL
PHOTOS OF ATTENDEES TAKEN AT THE PARTY MAY BE USED ON OUR WEBSITE.
Under 21 not admitted, there will be a 100% ID check to enter camp Pendleton.

Movers and Shakers- Camp Volunteers moved to Action

More than twenty years ago, when our camp began, we knew we wanted to enlist the help of non-disabled student volunteers so our program would be fully integrated. We knew children with autism would benefit from the behavior and language models that only "peer buddies" could provide. We didn't anticipate the profound impact the experience would have on the volunteers. Now we have hundreds of wonderful stories of how our volunteers were inspired by their time at Camp. This is one of them.

Annabelle and Julia are students from Norfolk Academy who volunteered last summer. They were so moved by their experiences that they gave a presentation to their entire middle school class of 350 students to educate them about autism and encourage them to volunteer. Each of the girls also gave an account of their experience that was so beautifully expressed that simply summarizing them wouldn't do. So this month we offer Julia's story and next month we will print Annabelle's. FACT is truly grateful for their time, dedication, and compassion.

Julia's story:

After working at camp this past summer, I can honestly say that I now have a different perspective of the world. I have always loved helping people but that one week at camp put a new meaning to what helping really is. I'm not going to lie and say that camp was all fun and games and going on slides at water parks; it was all of those things but it was so much more. I, along with another volunteer and staff member were put in a group with two boys; Wyatt and David. Wyatt is probably one of the smartest kids that I have ever met in my life. He was constantly spitting facts about science and honestly I didn't even know what he was talking about half of the time because the material was so advanced. Though Wyatt is challenged more so than some of us, he makes the best of his situation. David has some issues communicating and does not speak more than a few words at a time. He says little phrases such as "swing higher", "going to bus", or "green slide", but most of the time it was just "yes" or "no" followed by whatever he wanted or didn't want. One camper, Aaron, could tell you what day of the week any day was going back or extending to five years. It was the coolest thing. I asked him what day of the week February 23, 2019 was and he correctly answered that it was a Saturday, which I knew because it is my birthday. Camp taught me that you have to take everything and everyone for who they are. There was not a single person at that camp that was judgmental. It did not take long for me to realize that everyone has his or her own set of difficulties and no one is perfect. As a whole teens need to stop judging each other and stop calling each other "weird" and "annoying" and "ugly" because we all have our struggles. We need to start standing together, not apart, because in the end, we are all human and we all have our own challenges.

AUTISM 1 in 88

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

SAVE THE DATE
Lawn Party Under the Stars
MAY 16TH, 6PM

LOCATION:

Camp Grom

LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS

Purchase Tickets at
www.camp4autism.org

\$125/person

Only 500 tickets will be sold

FOOD SPONSORS

Baker's Crust
Coastal Grill

MUSIC BY

Strictly Bizzness

Camp
Gonnawannagoagin'

The Lawn Party is Coming

This event is casual elegance at it's best. It's become so popular that we've moved it to Camp Grom to make room for all the revelers and supporters. Tickets will be on sale soon, but first we need to start collecting silent auction items and identifying sponsors. If your family has benefited from FACT programs, please help by soliciting or donating an item for our auctions. Almost any new merchandise will do. Lawn and household services (think window cleaning, pool opening, gutter cleaning, etc.) are super popular too.

If your employer, or someone you know owns a community minded business that would be interested in sponsoring the event, **contact us** for more information. Thanks in advance for your support.

Programs and Events



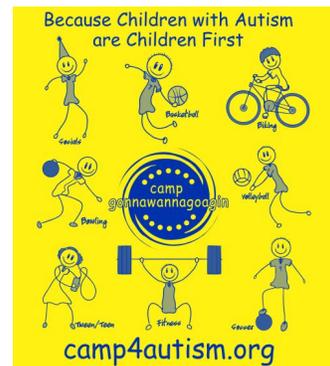
Mark your calendars- Spring Break Camp Registration opens
Friday, Feb. 7th at 8:00 p.m.



Leisure Programs for
Everyone



Social Programs for Teens
and Adults



Sports Programs
for Everyone



What:

GonnaNEEDaBREAK-
agin'

Drop off childcare

Who: Individuals with ASD
6 and older

When: Sat., Feb.15, Mar.
28, and Apr.25 from 6:00-
9:00 p.m.

Where: Friends School

What: Family Fun Day

Who: Free for everyone!
All ages and ability levels,
parents and siblings.

When: Sat., Feb. 8 from
1:00-3:00.

Where: Friends School

[Register for these
programs.](#)

More programs
offered



**Teen Time, Social Club,
and Out & About**

What: Valentine's Dance

Who: ages 13 and older

When: Fri., Feb. 14,
6:30-9:30 p.m.

Where: Camp Grom,
1181 Prosperity Rd., VB

** Read criteria carefully
before registering for any
program.*

[Register for these
programs!](#)

Program info and
registration



What:

GonnawannaGOALagin'
soccer clinic

Who: Athletes 8 and up
**please read criteria
before registering*

When: March 1- April 25
Saturdays from 9 -12:00,
start times vary by age
group.

Where: Friends School
**Registration opens 2/10*

[Register to play](#)

[Register to volunteer](#)

***Coming soon:**
Spring Soccer
Spring Camp

More about our
sports programs

Visit our Website

[Stay in touch!](#)

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757.422.2040

