

Dear Central Virginia Community,

We come together as agencies serving children and youth to ask for your support in responding to the disturbing and tragic white supremacist actions of August 11th and 12th in Charlottesville. Jointly, we reaffirm our intent to serve children of all backgrounds in order to provide the best opportunities for their development. Likewise, we condemn efforts that segregate our area's children. We are better when we are together.

Our children deserve a richly diverse and inclusive array of programming and peers. Inclusion remains one of the best ways to ensure a positive future for our society. As we facilitate many of the youth-focused programs in the area, we see firsthand and are proud of what children accomplish each day. We remain hopeful for the opportunity our programs represent—not only for academic achievement, and living healthy lifestyles, but for character development and the togetherness our community needs to flourish.

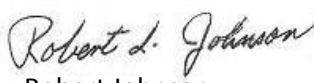
Adults provide walking billboards for kids' futures. Children watch us every day—in the classroom, at the youth center, at sporting events or in the lab—and they make choices about their own behavior as a result of models they observe. It is important now more than ever that we call out unacceptable behaviors, reinforce positive aspirations, and set goals for the future.


We hope you join us in sending positive messages to area young people, either directly through your personal connections, or through the Facebook Page: DearYoungPerson.

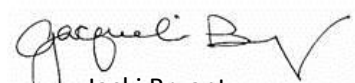
Thank you for your continued support of our goals for inclusiveness and diversity, and for your strong examples for our area's most valuable resource: our children.


Sincerely,

  
Anne B. Brown  
**Abundant Life Ministries**

  
Robert Johnson  
**City of Promise**

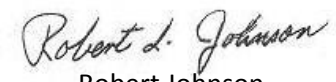
  
John Nafziger  
**Jefferson Area CHIP**

  
Jacki Bryant  
**ReadyKids**

  
Bob Crickenberger  
**Albemarle County Parks and Recreation**

  
Kala E. Somerville  
**Computers4Kids**

  
Deanna Gould  
**Light House Studio**


  
Robert Johnson  
**regionten**


  
Athena Gould  
**Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Central Blue Ridge**

  
Cathee Johnson Phillips  
**Foothills Child Advocacy Center**


  
Tim Freilich  
**Madison House**

  
Jin Ellington  
**The First Tee of the Virginia Blue Ridge**

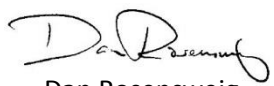
  
James R. Pierce  
**Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Virginia**


  
Michelle Busby  
**G.R.A.C.E.**

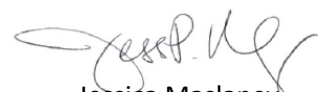
  
Alice Fox  
**Music Resource Center**

  
Ryan Jacoby  
**The PB&J Fund**

  
Kaki Dimock  
**Charlottesville Department of Human Services**

  
Dan Rosensweig  
**Habitat for Humanity of Greater Charlottesville**

  
Alicia L. Lenahan  
**Piedmont CASA, Inc.**

  
Jessica Maslaney  
**YMCA**

  
Sunshine Mathon  
**Piedmont Housing Alliance**