

Chesterfield County  
**Connected & Caring**  
Monthly News & Updates  
from Chesterfield County's Human Services Division  
Volume 1 Issue 1 | January 2021



**Dr. Worsley's Wise Words**

Welcome and thank you for taking your time to read the inaugural monthly newsletter for the Chesterfield Human Services Division, Connected & Caring. Not only is this newsletter new, but I am fairly new to my position as well. After starting in October, I have had the pleasure of getting to know all the individuals that make up this valuable division, which provides core services to our community. In this and future editions, we look forward to introducing you to our many partners as well as the exemplary team of professionals who are committed to serving the community while remaining innovative and collaborative. We recognize that we cannot achieve community goals and advance initiatives without building bridges and strengthening relationships.

New in 2021 is the Human Services Division Collaboratory (HSDC), a virtual meeting space that functions as a resource center, where similar interests regarding human services and needs are discussed. This is a space without borders, an opportunity to interact with colleagues, and a chance to access and share information. Over 40 nonprofits and other agencies participated, virtually, in a planning meeting in December. This virtual thinktank will meet monthly to further discuss human services topics and chart a course of action for the future. If you are interested in participating in the HSDC please email [Youth Services](#).

It is our hope that you will find this newsletter both informative and engaging in the months ahead.

Happy New Year!

James D. Worsley, Sr., Ph.D.  
Deputy County Administrator

**The Human Services Division Earns Recognition**



**RVA Basics**

Mental Health Support Services' Prevention Services Team, in partnership with Chesterfield County Public Schools, developed a model for coordinated local government implementation of The Basics campaign.

The Basics are five clusters of parenting and caregiving behaviors, distilled from research by the Achievement Gap Initiative at Harvard University, that encompass most of what experts find is important for boosting cognitive and social-emotional development of children from birth to age three. The Basics are fun, simple and free. The Basics movement aims to saturate the social ecology around each

family and to engage the whole community, so that everyone knows the Basics and every parent or caregiver receives encouragement and support for using them. In Chesterfield County, twelve local government agencies, including the school system, worked collaboratively to promote The Basics through strategies including print materials, videos, media, social media, care giver education, parent workshops, playgroups, toolkits and 1:1 citizen interaction. Our 2019 implementation showed a 48% increase in awareness of the Basics among those in Chesterfield. The Chesterfield Basics implementation team works closely with Greater Richmond Regional Basics Steering Committee, which has promoted the Chesterfield implementation blueprint as a model for other local governments.

Chesterfield Mental Health Support Services was recognized by both the National Association of Counties (NACo) and Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) for this coordinated government implementation of The Basics. Both recognize excellence and innovation in local government programs.

**[Learn more about RVA Basics. \[http://vpm.org/the-basics\]](http://vpm.org/the-basics)**



### **CIR Receives Double Recognition**

Citizen Information and Resources (CIR) received two NACo awards in 2020. The first was awarded to Access on Demand, a new program that offers same day, door-to-door, direct-to-destination transportation for county residents who either have a disability, live in a low-income household, or who are age 60+. With only two hours notice, six days a week, users can travel anywhere in the county for only \$6 per ride. This program is a new enhancement of the Access Chesterfield program. [Learn more about Access on](#)

[Demand.](#)

Citizen Information and Resources was also recognized for another new program in 2020, My Chesterfield Academy. In partnership with the Asian & Latino Solidarity Alliance of Central Virginia, or ALSACV, Chesterfield County launched My Chesterfield Academy which empowers residents, particularly those from multicultural communities, to understand and navigate Chesterfield County's government, as well as connect to other community resources. The program is the first of its kind in Virginia. Participants explored how their local government works, learned how to resolve issues, and obtained information and resources. [Learn more about My Chesterfield Academy.](#)

[Learn more about Chesterfield County's NACo and VACo awards.](#)

## **Meet the Human Services Departments**

### **Citizen Information and Resources**

#### **Why Statement**

Citizen Information and Resources strives to provide resources and information to all citizens in our community to better inform and connect services from youth to over 100 years in age.

#### **Overview**

Citizen Information and Resources provides information and resources to all residents in the community to include Aging and Disability, Mobility, Youth, Multi-Cultural and Volunteer Services along with Community Engagement to inform and connect residents through citizen academies, community events and historic commemorations.

#### **Department Leadership**

Emily Ashley, director  
Debbie Preston, aging and disability services manager  
Dawn Missory, mobility services manager

#### **A Unique “Did You Know?” Fact:**

Citizen and Information Resources is the newest of all county departments. Formed in 2018, this department merged resources from Youth Planning and Development, Aging and Disability Services, Access Chesterfield and Multicultural Services to form a cohesive department of information sharing.

[Learn more about Citizen Information and Resources.](https://www.chesterfield.gov/cir)  
[https://www.chesterfield.gov/cir]



## Community Corrections Services

### Why Statement

Enhancing public safety through supervision and services while creating opportunities for positive change.

### Overview

Chesterfield/Colonial Heights Community Corrections and Pretrial Services was established to provide supervision to individuals placed under court jurisdiction. Chesterfield Community Corrections Services (CCS) offers Pretrial and Post trial services as well as the Center of Risk Reduction (CORR), Dual Treatment Track (DTT) and Domestic and Sexual Violence Resource Center Programs.

### Department Leadership

Gary Hughes, director  
JoAnn M. Carpenter, assistant director

### A Unique “Did You Know?” Fact

Did you know that CCS Pretrial and probation officers are “Officers of the Court.” They are sworn in by a General District Court Judge and are given a badge. The oath states:

*I, do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States and Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as a Probation/Pretrial Services Officer within the jurisdictions I serve pursuant to providing probation and related services and to the requirements of the Comprehensive Community Corrections Act for Local Responsible Offenders and the Pretrial Services Act according to the best of my ability, so help me God.*

[Learn more about Community Corrections Services.](https://www.chesterfield.gov/1084/Community-Corrections-Services)  
[https://www.chesterfield.gov/1084/Community-Corrections-Services]



## Drug Courts

### Why Statement

The Drug Courts exist to provide a dispositional alternative to court that reduces reliance on incarceration and allows the defendant to enter intensive recovery that ultimately enhance public safety.

### Department Leadership

Judge F.G. Rockwell, III, adult drug court  
Judge D. Minton, juvenile drug court  
Melanie Meadows, drug court administrator

### A Unique “Did You Know?” Fact

One of the things that makes Drug Courts unique is the comprehensiveness of services provided and collaboration of its partner agencies. Drug Court team members representing several different agencies, including the judiciary, Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Office, and private bar, meet weekly as a group to discuss all program participants and also hold a weekly drug court docket. The full-time treatment and supervision staff provide treatment services multiple times each week which include individual and group sessions, cognitive-based programs, drug screening, and home/employment visits in the evenings and on weekends. During COVID, we are proud of our drug court police officers who continued to see participants in the field.

[Learn more about Drug Courts.](#)

## Juvenile Justice Services

### Overview

The department manages a multifaceted network of juvenile-focused programs, facilities, and interventions, including the Juvenile Detention Home, the Adolescent Reporting Program, the Davis Child Advocacy Center and an array of community-based programs.

### Department Leadership

Marilyn Brown, director of juvenile justice services  
Willie May, assistant director for the detention home  
Debbie Dugger, director of the adolescent reporting program  
Jenelle Beverly, child advocacy center administrator

### A Unique “Did You Know?” Fact

Did you know, the Department of Juvenile Justice Services requires and employs a very diverse skillset? The department has staff in the following areas: security, medical, mental health, education, case management, food services, laundry, maintenance, custodial, forensic interviewing, family advocacy, community service, outreach, and administration. Staff backgrounds are also very diverse. College majors range from criminal justice, sociology, social work, and psychology to nursing, sports journalism, and classical music.

[Learn more about Juvenile Justice Services.](#)

[<http://www.chesterfield.gov/4958/Juvenile-Justice-Services>]

## Mental Health Support Services

## Overview

Chesterfield Community Services Board/Mental Health Support Services Department is the provider of mental health, developmental disabilities and substance use disorder services for children and adults in Chesterfield County. Services are also available for very young children through our Prevention and Early Intervention Programs.

## Department Leadership

Kelly Fried, director  
Doug Bilski, assistant director of clinical services  
Danielle Sayre, assistant director of finance  
David Meadows, assistant director of community services  
Dr. Maria Angela Catolico, medical director  
Amanda Pilk, human resources manager  
Jarek Muchowski, assistant director of administration and planning.

## A Unique "Did You Know?" Fact

The Chesterfield Community Services Board serves as an Administrative-Policy Board for the Chesterfield Department of Mental Health Support Services. Members are appointed by the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors with statutory fiduciary and management authority and responsibilities. This 15-member board establishes policy and provides direction and oversight for fiscal activities and services provided by the department. The Chesterfield CSB members are appointed for a three-year term and can serve up to three consecutive terms. The Board has a representative from each of the five magisterial districts and ten members-at-large. Members come from all walks of life and have diverse experiences and expertise. One-third of the appointments to the Board must be individuals receiving services or family members of individuals receiving services.

[Learn more about Mental Health Support Services.](#)



## Social Services

### Overview

The Chesterfield-Colonial Heights Department of Social Services (CHDSS) is a combined agency serving both the County of Chesterfield and the City of Colonial Heights by providing the following services:

- Adult, Families and Children's Services: Adoption, Child Protective Services, Foster Care & Prevention, Independent Living, Adult Protective Services.
- Child Care Assistance: The Child Care Assistance program provides financial assistance to eligible low-income working families with childcare needs.
- Emergency Services: Assessment & Resource Team (ART) - responds to requests for emergency needs such as food, medication, rental and utility assistance.
- Employment Services: Offers various employment services and programs free of charge to all residents (18+) of Chesterfield County and the City of Colonial Heights.
- Financial Assistance: Auxiliary Grant Program, Housing Choice Voucher Program, Energy Assistance Program, Medical Assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

### Department Leadership

Kiva Rogers, director of social services  
Danika Briggs, assistant director for family services  
Eugene Walton, assistant director for benefits programs

Karen Reilly-Jones, assistant director for administration and finance.

### **A Unique "Did You Know?" Fact**

Did you know that CCHDSS is one of only eight local department of social services serving dual localities? Although we serve Chesterfield County and the City of Colonial Heights, there is only one location, which is shared with the Chesterfield County Health Department.

**Learn More about Chesterfield-Colonial Heights Department of Social Services. [<https://www.chesterfield.gov/569/Social-Services>]**



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## **For More Information**

### **Caring & Connected Newsletter Team**

- **Citizen Information and Resources:** [Emily Ashley](#), director
- **Community Corrections Services:** [JoAnn McLaurin-Carpenter](#), assistant director
- **Drug Courts:** [Melanie Meadows](#), administrator
- **Juvenile Justice Services:** [Justin Crostic](#), program administrator for treatment programs & detention alternatives
- **Mental Health Support Services:** [Jaroslaw Muchowski](#), assistant director of administration and planning
- **Social Services:** [Valerie Dunbar-Brooks](#), community engagement coordinator

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