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CONTACT: NECOLE SIMMONDS

Necole.Simmonds@dss.virginia.gov

804-726-7105

Child Support Awareness Day

Strengthening Families and Communities

Division of Child Support Enforcement invites families to participate

Norfolk, Va. (August 24, 2017) - On Saturday, August 26 the Virginia Department of Social Services' [Division of Child Support Enforcement](#) (DCSE) will celebrate Child Support Awareness Day during the Back to School Fest, at Norfolk Scope, located at 201 E. Brambleton Ave. Norfolk, VA. 23510 from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This event coincides with national Child Support Awareness Month, and is a component of an outreach process intended to increase DCSE's presence and accessibility throughout the Hampton Roads community. Staff will be on hand to provide information regarding DCSE services offered to parents, families and other parties involved or interested in child support.

"Child support is more than financial. Children need physical and emotional security. However, barriers such as unemployment, substance misuse and incarceration significantly impact a parent's ability to provide support to their children," said Craig Burshem, deputy commissioner of DCSE. "It's important to DCSE that we engage local communities to promote awareness around programs and services that can help parents facilitate successful outcomes for themselves and their children."

With one in five children in Virginia involved in a child support case, DCSE continues to enhance services such as family engagement, fatherhood initiatives, re-entry programs and realistic support orders. DCSE is committed to working with community partners in helping parents overcome barriers such as lack of job skills, unemployment, previous incarceration, substance misuse and mental health issues. DCSE will also continue to refer parents to mediation or agency partners for help in resolving disputes and improving communication.

In the last fiscal year, DCSE managed more than 310,000 cases and collected more than \$659 million in support on behalf of Virginia's children. Child support helps provide funds for food, shelter, education, clothing, and other costs involved in raising and nurturing children.

To learn more, visit <http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/dcse/>.