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Aug. 23, 2004

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Programs & Services**How Do I...?**

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Do you need training in child care?

The Virginia Department of Social Services has numerous classes across the state to assist providers with professional development in order to enhance child care. For a registration fee of between \$5 and \$25 per course, you can take such classes

as "Activities of Infants and Toddlers," "Babies and Toddlers Need Exercise Too," "Exploring the World Through the Arts" and much more.

Courses are filling up quickly.

Course listing and locations, registration » [URL](#)

Biannual Report Available

The Virginia Department of Social Services and its public agency and private sector partners work diligently to help Virginians lead safe and productive lives. The department's work impacts the most vulnerable of our citizenry. The 2002-04 Biannual Report details how the department and its partners helped children, families, adults and communities.

2002-2004 Biannual Report » [PDF](#)

BeFriend-A-Child

The Fairfax County Department of Family Services has been honored by the Virginia Mentoring Partnership for outstanding service to children in the BeFriend-A-Child (BAC) mentoring program. BeFriend-A-Child has provided volunteer mentors for more than

1,700 children ages five to 12 from varying cultures throughout Fairfax County during the past 25 years. Children who are mentored are more likely to stay in school, perform better academically and avoid run-ins with the law. Nearly 95 percent of parents whose children are

Online Services

- [Am I eligible for assistance?](#)
- [How do I increase self-sufficiency through employment?](#)
- [What's the status of my child support payment?](#)
- [Find out about child care?](#)
- [Find someone to help me?](#)



Prescription Drug Assistance in Virginia (including Medicare Drug Discount Card)



VIRGINIA

This Long-Term Care Awareness Campaign is a five-state pilot project to increase awareness among both retirees and baby-boomers about planning for long-term care needs.

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in the program report a "happier children" and 85 percent report improved self-esteem and reduced stress in their children.

EITC coalition helps low-income workers
Local departments of social services in central Virginia are partnering with organizations including Families First, the



Central Virginia Food Bank, the Greater Richmond NAACP and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to form the Greater Richmond Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Coalition. The group is promoting the federal tax credit and providing free tax preparation for low-income workers for the third straight year. Gordon Ragland, director of the Henrico County Department of Social Services, takes a moment to share his enthusiasm about the coalition.

Full story » [PDF](#)

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