



\*\*\* FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE \*\*\*

## **Racquets for Reading!!! Receives Grant from Harvest Foundation**

**Charlottesville, Virginia (9/13/2022)** – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is pleased to report they have received a \$5,000 grant from the Youth Board of the Harvest Foundation in Martinsville, Virginia for Racquets for Reading!!! This generous grant will fund six to nine books, mini reading rubber duckies, Go Bananas for QuickStart! nutrition cards and banana-scented bookmarks for 350 preschoolers in Henry County and the City of Martinsville. This is the third year for Martinsville and the first for Henry County. With Henry County, we will have reached 25 different school systems since we kicked off Racquets for Reading!!! in November 2020.



Harvest Youth Board member Piper Doughton, says, "I fell in love with Racquets for Reading!!! from the start. The program doesn't just provide books, QuickStart goes above and beyond to make it fun and truly foster a love of reading. I can't wait to see our community is impacted by this program!"

Harvest Youth Board member Camille Underwood adds, "The Racquets for Reading grant is a great opportunity that supports the youth of Martinsville and Henry County through reading initiatives. Reading is such an important skill and low literacy rates have such a big impact on children and their futures. The Harvest Youth Board wants to help boost reading skills and literacy rates in the community by ensuring access to books for all children - and this is exactly what Racquets for Reading!!! provides!"

QCV's QuickStart Coordinator Lynda Harrill says, "The Harvest Youth Board is an awesome group of young people who are getting to learn and practice the power of philanthropy early in life. I'm not sure financial philanthropy was on my radar back then. I know I volunteered a lot in the community, but was not afforded the opportunity these high school students are having. It has to be a transformative experience. We are so appreciative of our partnership with them. We're both on a mission to get kids to learn to read and love books. Racquets for Reading!!! uses a simple approach that has an immediate impact on kids and will produce lots of positive results down the road. Many

thanks to the Harvest Foundation and the Youth Board for helping us build 'home libraries' for preschoolers in public schools in Martinsville and Henry County."

***Want to be a great adult?  
Play tennis! Read books! Eat healthy! Have FUN!!!  
Be a QuickStart kid!***

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QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia is an all-volunteer, grassroots Community Tennis Association established in 2009 as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization to promote, develop and grow QuickStart Tennis in the heart of Virginia for all beginners, especially underserved youth, using the kid-sized QuickStart Tennis format. QCV's service area includes, Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fluvanna, Franklin, Greene, Greensville, Halifax, Henry, Louisa, Lunenburg, Madison, Mecklenburg, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Patrick Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Powhatan and Rappahannock counties and the cities of Charlottesville, Danville and Martinsville, plus under a special arrangement, King George County. We currently serve 214 schools with 101,000 kids, 15 parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and two YMCAs, in 31 Virginia counties and independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 37 additional schools with 16,000 students in Virginia communities outside our service area.

Visit QCV at [www.quickstartcentral.org](http://www.quickstartcentral.org) and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/quickstartcentral).

For additional information, contact [quickstartcentral@comcast.net](mailto:quickstartcentral@comcast.net).



*A racquet in every hand! A smile on every face!*



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