



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

## **BrightSTARS–Tennis for Me! Wraps Up at Woodbrook Elementary**

**Charlottesville, Virginia (5/21/2018)** – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is pleased to report that the first year of BrightSTARS–Tennis for Me! at Woodbrook Elementary, which ended May 17, was a great success. BrightSTARS–Tennis for Me! is a tennis and nutrition immersion format developed by QCV for preschoolers who participate in Virginia Preschool Initiative classrooms in public schools in central and southwest Virginia. The BrightSTARS curriculum is taught in 10 sessions over five months during the school year. Currently there are 12 BrightSTARS schools with 750 kids.



At the final session at Woodbrook, in addition to receiving a Go Bananas for QuickStart! poster and Go Bananas! cards for Lean Meats, Seafood and Sunglasses, the kids were given sunglasses, a Go Bananas! drawstring tennis ball bag and a racquet and ball to keep. Classroom teachers Kelli Huffman and Jane Mathias were both honored with QCV “Top Banana” awards.

Carol Fox, Bright Stars Program Coordinator for Albemarle County, says, “High quality preschool experiences are critical to helping ensure future school success. The experiences children are provided in preschool should address the whole child – academic, social-emotional and physical development. The partnership with QCV provides the four-year-old children enrolled in our program an opportunity to engage with volunteers who focus on the students’ physical development including health and nutritional wellness, and large motor development as well as their social development through collaborative play. We are fortunate to have this relationship with QuickStart Tennis to provide these fun learning experiences for the students.”

Lynda Harrill, QCV QuickStart Tennis Coordinator, adds, “Our first year of BrightSTARS–Tennis for Me! at Woodbrook was totally awesome! The teachers and kids were so engaged. Community volunteers Gabriela Chase, Linda Perry and QCV Board member Barbara Watson did an awesome job working with the kids! Together we’re developing the ‘Net Generation – the Next Generation of Greats.’ A special thank-you to Judy Blakely, Family Coordinator at Woodbrook, for helping us set up the program. We are so grateful to the Party Parade Fund in the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation for making it possible for us to buy tennis equipment for the school. They’ve put it to great use!”



Jane with the “Top Banana” awards and kids with tennis goody bags

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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 Albemarle, Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fluvanna, Franklin, Greene, Greenville, 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. We currently serve 207 schools with more than 95,000 kids, 15 parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and three YMCAs in our service area of 27 counties and three independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 36 additional schools with 15,000 students in communities outside our service area.

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

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

