

*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

Aqua Virginia Grant Supports Racquets for Reading!!!

Charlottesville, Virginia (8/17/2021) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is pleased to report that Aqua Virginia, an Essential Utilities Company, through <u>The Essential Foundation</u>, has stepped up to provide funding for 210 preschoolers who will benefit from our Racquets for Reading!!! initiative. The kids will receive books in addition to FUN giveaways — mini reading rubber duckies, Go Bananas for QuickStart! cards and banana-scented bookmarks. Aqua Virginia presented the grant check to QCV at Madison Primary School in Madison County where their 50 preschoolers will receive six to eight books to start a "home library" and FUN giveaways funded by The Essential Foundation.



Pictured (left to right): PreK teacher Jennifer Taylor, QCV QuickStart Coordinator Lynda Harrill, Principal Mike Coiner, PreK teacher Susan Estes, Jenni Ostby of Aqua Virginia

Lynda Harrill, says, "We are so thrilled Aqua Virginia and The Essential Foundation are supporting Racquets for Reading!!! in such a significant way. They are helping us build a birth through kindergarten 'reading pathway' in Madison County where there is a new chapter of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library with 170 kids registered. Madison Primary School recently had a complete remodel, so getting to see the 'new' facility was a treat, as was receiving such a generous grant. Aqua Virginia operates water utilities in 12 of our QCV counties, so stay tuned to see which preschoolers in other 'Aqua' counties will benefit from this grant. Many thanks to the Aqua Virginia team!"



Jennifer (at right) gives a tour of a newly renovated PreK classroom. Dale Stewart of Aqua Virginia pictured at left.

Please visit our <u>website</u> to learn more about what QCV is doing to promote physical activity, healthy eating and early childhood literacy for preschoolers and kindergartners through our <u>Racquets for Reading!!!</u> initiative.

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

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 Brunswick, Buckingham, includes. Amelia. Appomattox, 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 212 schools with 99,000 kids, 15 parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and two YMCAs in 27 counties and three independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 37 additional schools with 16,000 students in communities outside our service area.

Visit QCV at www.quickstartcentral.org and on Facebook.

For additional information, contact <u>quickstartcentral@comcast.net</u>.


