



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

## **SML Tennis Gets Kids Moving at Smith Mountain Lake**

**Charlottesville, Virginia** (5/8/2018) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is pleased to report that SML Tennis has started its outreach program to elementary schools around Smith Mountain Lake in Bedford and Franklin counties. Chesley Wilkerson, founder of SML Tennis, recently spent all day at Moneta Elementary School teaching tennis during PE classes to kids in kindergarten through fifth grade.



Chesley says, “I taught gym class all day April 30th to grades k-5. Each class ranged from 17 to 24 students! Kids learned footwork, ball control and hand-eye coordination through different drills and games, using red foam balls. By the end of each 40-minute class, most kids were able to rally back and forth with each other. Tons of fun! We hope to attract these kids to the Smith Mountain Lake YMCA for some out-of-school programming. SML Tennis is offering [red, orange and green ball clinics](#) there four days a week for kids ages five to twelve.”

Lynda Harrill, QCV QuickStart Tennis Coordinator, adds, “We love finding people like Chesley in the counties we serve. She has the passion and drive to help us grow tennis. It is so awesome to have a tennis instructor work with PE teachers to get tennis going in a community. Many thanks to Caitlyn Moore, PE teacher at Moneta Elementary, for

welcoming Chesley to her classes. Building a tennis pathway for kids starts in PE. Building a tennis tradition in a community takes partnerships like that.”



Chesley (middle back row) with some fourth-graders

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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](https://www.facebook.com/quickstartcentral).

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



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