

*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

Racquets for Reading!!! Reaches 10,000+ Kid Benchmark

Ivy, Virginia (2/23//2023) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is thrilled to report 10,000+ preschoolers and kindergartners in 29 school systems in central and southside Virginia have received 80,000+ books and FUN giveaways, including mini rubber ducky reading pals, an assortment of Go Bananas for QuickStart! nutrition cards, banana-scented bookmarks and stickers from our Racquets for Reading!!! Initiative. Racquets for Reading!!! was launched in November 2020 in response to the COVID disruption.



Lynda Harrill, QCV Founder, says, "10,000 kids is quite a benchmark for us. We came up with Racquets for Reading!!! because we knew it would help as tennis in school with kids was put on hold by COVID, but we had no idea it would be this BIG. It's a pretty simple concept. We send teachers a check payable to book vendor Scholastic Book Club and then the teachers select "bargain books" that suit their classroom demographics and reading achievement levels. We also send along FUN giveaways to engage the kids. Making it FUN is the secret to success with teaching kids tennis and fostering a love of reading. In return, the teachers send us photos of the kids with books and giveaways and a list of titles purchased. They are also asked to send thank-you notes to the donors who make this possible. We couldn't do what we do without our generous donors. A BIG thank you to all of them!"

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 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 <u>www.quickstartcentral.org</u> and on <u>Facebook</u>.

For additional information, contact guickstartcentral@comcast.net.



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

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