



For Immediate Release
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For more information contact:
Ashley Jacobs
Program Coordinator
(540) 672-5484

ORANGE HEALTHY COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM OFFERS PROGRAMMING FOR AREA YOUTH

Orange County, VA – The Orange Healthy Community Action Team (HCAT) is excited to announce the completion of coalition building workshops and the subsequent adoption of guidance documents. Next on its agenda, is the offering of programming to area youth that enhances access to healthy, fresh produce and active recreational opportunities.

Established following a three-year grant award from the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth in July of 2020, the Orange Healthy Community Action Team was launched and stands ready to break barriers to healthy childhoods in our community. The Orange HCAT consists of Darnell's Garden Patch, Love Outreach Food Pantry, Orange County Office of Virginia Cooperative Extension (4-H), Orange County Office on Youth, Orange County Parks and Recreation, UVA Pediatrics at Orange, and community member Robin Monaco. The vision of the Orange Healthy Community Action Team is to break barriers to healthy childhoods by establishing a visible and impactful collaboration which works together to share messages for accessible healthy opportunities and a physically active community in Orange County, Virginia.

Several opportunities are currently available to residents, including an after-school dance fitness class (Wednesday afternoons); a six-week Outdoor Skills Program focusing on awareness, wellness, and stewardship for youth ages 8 – 12; and the possible reinstatement of the Michael's Mile Color Fun Run pending COVID-19 restrictions. During prime growing season additional fresh produce options will be available at Love Outreach Food Pantry for distribution to local families, and fresh produce will be available weekly at Orange County School Aged Childcare sites. Increased growth of fresh produce opportunities for area youth are being planned for FY22 and FY23.



Orange Healthy Community Action Team
Breaking Barriers to Healthy Childhoods

The Orange County Office on Youth is grateful for the community's support and is excited to expand the HCAT's efforts over the next few years. For more information, please contact Ashley Jacobs, HCAT Coordinator, at (540) 672-5484 ext. 1 or at ajacobs@orangecountyva.gov. For more information about the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth, please visit www.vfhy.org. Social Media pages can also be followed to stay updated on the activities and efforts of the Orange HCAT.
Facebook: @OrangeHCAT
Instagram: @OrangeHCAT

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