

Richmond Times-Dispatch

\$25,000 grant supports fitness program at Ginter Park Elementary

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Greater Richmond Fit4Kids has received \$25,000 from the **Aetna Foundation** to implement a comprehensive physical activity and nutrition program at **Ginter Park Elementary School**. In the “Ginter Park Gators Get Active” program, wellness integration specialists will develop classroom lessons that incorporate physical activity into the teaching of almost any subject. The specialists also will lead fitness clubs, conduct taste tests of fruits and vegetables, host family fun and fitness nights, organize health fairs and field days, and find places throughout the school for such exercise equipment as stationary bikes and stability balls.

Through the partnership, Fit4Kids will reach more than 360 local children.

“We are excited to support the expansion of the wellness integration program to Ginter Park Elementary and provide opportunities for students and teachers to be physically active during the school day,” said Sharon Dalton, vice president of the Aetna Foundation and director of its regional grant-making program.

“This program has not only been very popular with teachers and students but has exposed hundreds of students to physically active classrooms and wellness opportunities at school,” said Mary Dunne Stewart, executive director of Greater Richmond Fit4Kids. “We are grateful for the support that the Aetna Foundation has given this project and its ongoing commitment to children’s health and wellness.”

Group again donates to Yorktown museum

The **Garland and Agnes Taylor Gray Foundation**, a supporting organization of The Community Foundation Serving Richmond and Central Virginia, has donated \$150,000 to the **American Revolution Museum at Yorktown**.

The new donation brings the foundation’s total contribution to the project to \$259,000 in recent years.

The first exhibits will move into the new 80,000-square-foot building this year. It will completely replace the Yorktown Victory Center in late 2016, and the new name will be adopted at that point. The new permanent exhibition galleries are a project of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, a Virginia state agency that operates the Yorktown Victory Center and Jamestown Settlement.

“The Gray Foundation’s generous grant continues a long tradition of Gray family support of the Jamestown-Foundation museums,” said Carter S. Sonders, director of principal gifts. “Gray Foundation grants have benefited numerous projects and programs over the past 30 years, and the late Virginia Sen. Elmon T. Gray and Mrs. Gray were leadership donors to The Campaign for Jamestown Settlement, 1607-2007.”

Provide A Ride plans to expand program

Provide A Ride has received \$3,500 from national auto insurance company **Safeco** through its Make More Happen awards program.

Chesterfield County’s **Auto Insurers of Virginia** nominated the organization, which helps to prevent drunken driving by providing taxi rides for partyers at public events. Over the past two years, the group has paid for 430 taxi rides at such activities as outdoor music festivals on Brown’s Island, craft brewery events and even church-sponsored fundraisers where alcohol is served. Volunteers work with event organizers to promote designated driving and to have single-use breathalyzers available.

- “We’re honored that Auto Insurers of Virginia and Safeco selected PAR for this award. We plan to use the grant money to expand our bar and restaurant program,” said Wes White, who conceived the program.