The Arlington Partnership is a community-led advisory group that reports to both the Arlington County Board and the Arlington County School Board. It is comprised of community volunteers and County and School staff. Together, the Boards have charged the Partnership with improving the health, safety, and well-being of children, youth, and families in Arlington through researching young peoples’ needs, advocating for improved policies and programs to meet those needs, and engaging all members of our community.

This report summarizes the major accomplishments of the Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families from January 2012 through December of 2013, specifically looking at the three areas in our mission: Research, Community Engagement, and Advocacy.
Research:
In March of 2012, the APCYF administered the Developmental Assets Survey to 2,286 students in APS grades 6, 8, 10 and 12.

Level of Assets
Every community wants to have all children and youth experience the highest level of Assets. Search Institute defines four levels of assets: “At Risk” (0-10 Assets), “Vulnerable” (11-20), “Adequate” (21-30), and “Optimal” (31-40 Assets).

In 2012, over three-quarters of Arlington County youth in grade 6 are in the “Optimal” and “Adequate” levels and less than a quarter are in the “Vulnerable” and “At Risk” levels combined.

See full reports:

In March of 2013, the APCYF administered the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) to 2,180 students in APS grades 6, 8, 10 and 12.

Substance Use - Alcohol

Bullying by Gender

See full reports:
Community Engagement:

The APCYF prides itself on collaborating with the community to include teens, parents, School and County staff and other community members to find ways to meet the needs of children and families.

In 2012, we convened three workgroups to look at peer-to-peer relations, specifically peaceful conflict resolution, cultural competency and interpersonal competency. The three groups talked about strategies to engage and educate the community. Through this process, and looking at the similarities of the ideas, the Care for a Change initiative was formed. This new committee is led by community members and its mission is An Arlington community supporting all young people in caring for each other. They are meeting monthly and engaging with the community through meetings, social media and other campaigns. They are working with the APCYF the Developmental Assets to spread the word of empathy and caring to our community.

In 2011, the schools adopted a new strategic plan that has Developmental Assets written into its goals. Goal 5: Meet the Needs of the Whole Child specifically uses the Asset Data collected for their information http://dashboard.apsva.us/idashboards/?guestuser=guest&dashID=258 Many schools have invited the APCYF to speak to its staff and PTAs to encourage everyone to participate in increasing the number of assets in our youth.

The APCYF in partnership with APS administered the Assets Survey in the Spring of 2012.

Over the summer, data was analyzed and in the Fall of 2012, reported to APS, the School and County Boards along with many interested community organizations.

In the fall of 2012, we established relationships with 6 elementary schools to place Assets in a Jar at their front desks. While parents or other adults are waiting for students, they can pull a card from the jar that has an easy idea of how to build developmental assets. Each card is in English and Spanish and has the APCYF website for additional information.

In Spring 2013, the Partnership continued its efforts to build awareness of the Assets Framework and inspire individuals and organizations to take action. Working with the Out-of-School Time Council, the APCYF helped organize and lead three trainings on Developmental
Assets for the community. Over the course of the three days, over 150 people attended. From that training, we have many new Asset Leaders who are using the information they learned in their classrooms, on the playing fields, in camps and in their homes. Along with these training events, dozens of community workshops, workshops with APS and ACG staff, and recognition of community members who “connect with kids,” the Partnership is helping adults and young people learn how to create an asset-rich environment.

Spring 2013 - YRBS

In 2013 the Assets OST Conference in October

Both years, The **Connect with Kids Champions** has recognized over 60 recipients since its inception in 2004. We are now on a regular cycle of accepting nominations each Fall and Spring. Past Champions can be found on our web-site [www.apcyf.org/past-champions](http://www.apcyf.org/past-champions).
Advocacy:

Formed an Advocacy Committee
The reports to the School/County Boards
Carlin Springs
Pediatric Obesity Workgroup
Out of School Time Council
Early Childhood Education
Meetings with Board Members
School Nurses
Second Chance

Committee Highlights:

Teen Network Board:
Volunteer Fair 2012 & 2013
Sandwiches for Martha’s Table 2012 & 2013
Rebuilding Together 2013
STI PSA 2013
CFAC 2013
Bully, The Movie 2013
Youth Philanthropy Initiative Grant 2013

READY Coalition:
Clarendon Day 2012 & 2013
November Town Hall & Mission Possible, HAZE
Received a Continuation Grant
Too Smart to Start
Choose 2 Refuse
SPF-SIG

Out of School Time Council:
Formed and Charged
Access Survey
Asset Conferences

In closing
Our work continues to be guided by the Developmental Assets as well as the Cultural Shifts, for example rather than focusing on a specific age group, focus on ALL ages, or rather than only seeing deficits in youth, we look at their assets.