



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**VOLUNTEERS SELECT  
HORIZONS HAMPTON ROADS  
AS NEWEST CERTIFIED AGENCY**

Norfolk, VA -- January 24, 2014 -- **United Way of South Hampton Roads** is proud to announce our newest certified partner, **Horizons Hampton Roads**. The agency:

- Provides 6 weeks of summer school to low income, at risk students in kindergarten through 8th grade in Portsmouth, Norfolk and Virginia Beach.
- Uses the campuses of independent schools as host sites (Chesapeake Bay Academy, Portsmouth Catholic and Norfolk Collegiate).
- Hires teachers to provide STEM programming and reading instruction. Children also participate in community field trips and swimming lessons.
- Evaluates children using pre and post test to measure the number of months of gain achieved by participants. Students average between 2 and 3 months of improvement. Since 2009, 98% of students have progressed to the next grade level. Of the children who started the program in 1999 as kindergartners, 98% graduated high school.
- In 2013, Horizons reached 350 children in 51 schools including PB Young Elementary, the focus of our United for Children initiative to drive educational success in our poorest children as a way out of poverty.
- In February, the agency is partnering with Tidewater Park to provide a 9 week Saturday school.

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**United Way of South Hampton Roads** provides leadership that brings resources together to reduce poverty, increase educational attainment and minimize health disparities for our most vulnerable neighbors.

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