

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**Date:** August 3, 2012

**Contact:** Shawn Flaherty, 703-554-3609

### **AUG 7: Neighborhood Safety Focus of FACETS' "National Night Out" Event**

#### **WHAT**

FACETS, a nonprofit that opens doors by helping parents, their children, and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in Fairfax County, is participating in National Night Out by hosting a community festival featuring music, food, games, and prizes for families served by FACETS' Education and Community Development Program (ECD). Started by the National Association of Town Watch, the purpose of National Night Out is to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for local anticrime programs; and strengthen police-community partnerships by engaging neighbors in local anti-crime efforts.

#### **WHY**

By hosting a National Night Out event, FACETS is working to keep clients engaged in their communities. FACETS's ECD program operates year-round in three low-income, subsidized communities offering a continuum of supportive services to break the cycle of poverty. People living in these affordable housing communities have limited financial resources, with the average income for a family of four near \$18,000. At Robinson Square, Ragan Oaks and Barros Circle, staff and volunteers offer an array of educational, preventative and enrichment programs to help youth, and a variety of classes such as literacy, art, computer, and substance abuse and dating violence prevention.

#### **WHEN**

Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm

#### **WHERE**

Robinson Square Community Center, 4400 St. Edwards Place, Fairfax, VA

#### **WHO**

- Amanda Andere, FACETS Executive Director
- Robinson Square community center residents
- Volunteers
- Public Safety officials and local dignitaries

#### **HOW**

To cover the event, contact Shawn Flaherty at 703-554-3609.