

Contact: Peggy Hobbs, Marketing Manager **Phone**: (540) 948-2237, ext. 130 **Email**: marketingmanager@skylinecap.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 1, 2018

Skyline CAP Launches New Program

Addition of Healthy Families program enhances mission to promote self-sufficiency

MADISON, VA – Skyline CAP, Inc. is pleased to announce the addition of Healthy Families to the portfolio of programs and services the agency offers in Fauquier, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock counties. Healthy Families Fauquier & Rappahannock[™] and Healthy Families Madison & Orange[™] are affiliates of Healthy Families America[™] (HFA), which provides first-time parents with an evidence-based home visiting program that focuses on enhancing child welfare, health and development.

Shelley Hensley has been named Healthy Families Supervisor and will oversee daily operations of the program. Hensley is a graduate of Longwood University with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work and comes to this role with nearly 20 years of experience working in the Healthy Families Virginia network. Her office is located in Warrenton, Va.

"HFA's approach provides support that enhances the self-sufficiency of the families we work with, which aligns well with Skyline CAP's mission to break the cycle of poverty," said Fran Lavin, Skyline CAP Executive Director. "Shelley's extensive experience with Healthy Families is invaluable as we work together with our community partners to develop and support our client base."

Healthy Families is designed to operate as part of a system of care that collaborates to support families. Referrals to the program will come from the Department of Social Services and health departments in Fauquier, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock counties.

Participation in the program is voluntary. Parents and families who choose to participate will be matched with a dedicated Family Support Specialist who will work directly with them in their homes, answering questions and providing guidance intended to improve the new baby's outcome, including basic infant care, healthy development and coping with stresses associated with parenthood. Visits begin prior to birth or within three months of birth and are offered until the child's third birthday, and preferably until the child's fifth birthday.

"We have a great team of trained specialists that will work directly with new parents and help them find the tools and resources they need to ensure the lifelong healthy development of their child," said Hensley.

The project is supported by the Commonwealth of Virginia, Healthy Families Initiative, Virginia Department of Social Services. To learn more about Skyline CAP's Healthy Families programs, visit skylinecap.org/healthyfamilies. To learn more about the HFA program, visit their website at healthyfamiliesamerica.org.

About Skyline CAP, Inc.

Skyline CAP, Inc. is a non-profit community action agency (CAA) working to improve the lives of those in need through education and housing programs designed to empower families and individuals to become self-sufficient. A designated CAA for Greene, Madison and Orange counties, Skyline CAP extends many of its programs to the counties of Fauquier, Page, Rappahannock, Shenandoah and Warren. For more information on Skyline CAP's programs and services, visit our website at www.skylinecap.org.