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Newport News Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Volunteers Give from the Heart

Author Elizabeth Andrew wrote, "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."

The Newport News Sheriff's Office wants to thank its volunteers for having the heart to help an often unseen and undesirable population. Inmates housed at the Newport News City Jail and the Jail Annex are offered classes, most of which are taught by volunteers. Inmate programs include brick masonry, GED, basic education, English as a second language, parenting, substance abuse diversion, faith-based guidance, etc.

These courses are vital to the community. An estimated 95% of all prisoners incarcerated today will be released. If they return to their community with skills, they can return as productive citizens. Work performed by volunteers in a jail setting can ultimately help improve public safety.

The Sheriff's Office will hold its 5th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, Thursday, October 14, at the Marriott at City Center.

WHO: Newport News Sheriff's Office
WHAT: 5th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
WHEN: Thursday, October 14 @ 6:00 p.m.
WHERE: Marriott at City Center
740 Town Center Drive
Newport News, VA 23606

GUEST SPEAKER: The Rev. Dr. Kirk T. Houston, Sr. author of "The Church's Return to Policy: Equipping the Church to Minister to Ex-Offenders."

There is an average of 150 volunteers who assist the Newport News inmate population with an average of 40 programs. So far this year, 1,365 classes have been completed with individual inmates graduating from multiple classes. Currently, there are 150 men and women enrolled in inmate programs.

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For more information, contact Lt. Kathleen Carey at 757-926-8747 or 757-813-6139.