



## Media Advisory

### **The Mappers are Coming! Alexandria Youth Kick Off Community “YouthMapping” Project in the City’s East End July 13 Press Event Will Feature Youth Mappers, Local Officials and Opportunity to Accompany a Mapping Team on an Interview**

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of Alexandria [www.preventitalalexandria.org](http://www.preventitalalexandria.org)

**When:** Wednesday, July 13, 10:30 am

**Where:** Rocky Versace Plaza at Mount Vernon Recreation Center  
2701 Commonwealth Ave.  
Alexandria, VA 22305

**What:** Press conference to kick off youth-led “Community YouthMapping” project in Alexandria’s East End.

From July 11-August 19, teams of trained youth mappers—20 teens, ages 15 to 18, who are supervised by adult team leaders—will visit Alexandria’s East End to conduct formal interviews with managers and leaders of businesses, nonprofit organizations, faith-based communities, City sites and City schools. They will ask about existing programs and services as well as explore perceptions about such issues as youth substance abuse, teen pregnancy, and gang activity. Mappers, who were selected by youth services organizations in Alexandria, will enter the research data in a database and develop a presentation with the findings of their research, including existing resources and service gaps. This information will be accessible to youth, service providers, community organizations, City and School officials, and residents.

Community YouthMapping is organized by the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria (SAPCA) with Office on Women and Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy; Alexandria City Public Schools; Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services; Alexandria Fire Department; Alexandria Health Department; Alexandria Police Department; Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities; Alexandria Sheriff’s Department; JobLink; and the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria

**Speakers:**

**Kerry Donley**, Vice Mayor, City of Alexandria

**Timothy Lewis**, TC Williams High School student and YouthMapper

**Sheryl Gorsuch**, Chair, School Board, Alexandria City Public Schools

**Allen Lomax**, Chair, Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria

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