



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATING
SURRY AS A THIRD TIME 100 BEST COMMUNITY FOR YOUTH TO LIVE**

Surry, VA -- In celebration of Surry County being a third time winner of the America's Promise Alliance 100 Best Communities for Young People, the public is cordially invited to a "Holiday Open House" at the Surry County Office on Youth on Saturday, December 8, 2012 from 1:30 PM to 5 PM.

In September of this year, Surry County was again honored in Washington, DC by America's Promise for its focus on collaboration in youth programming and funding. One of the key agencies contributing to this award has been the Office on Youth which has established partnerships with nearly 80 local agencies, organizations, businesses, as well as, regional and state entities to provide youth services. This includes activities to encourage academic success, work/college readiness, and the prevention of risky behaviors such as teen pregnancy, juvenile crime, drug use, etc.

The Office on Youth's mission is to enhance the quality of life for Surry County youth and families by effectively addressing youth concerns, assessing needs for services, increasing community collaboration and assistance in the establishment of effective programs for positive youth development. The Youth Services Citizen Board's function is to advise the Office on Youth and county officials about issues relating to youth and to provide opportunities for community involvement by seeking input on youth concerns from youth and adult citizens of Surry County. Both entities will host this event. The public will have an opportunity to learn about our programs and referral information will be distributed about other youth services agencies.

The Office on Youth is located at 203 Church Street between the General District Courthouse and Surry Baptist Church. There will be festive holiday refreshments, crafts, and treat bags for youth. Souvenir cups will be given to the first 100 Visitors. Funding support for this event is provided by the County of Surry, America's Promise Alliance and ING. U. S. For more details, visit our website at www.surrycountyva.gov or call 757-294-5278.