

PRESS RELEASE

Hands Up for Global Unity Dance-A-Thon Fundraiser By Lana Ferguson, HYSC member

(Mechanicsville, VA) -- Saturday, September 10, 2011, Hanover Youth Service Council (HYSC) and Caring About Kids Education (CAKE) will co-host the Hands Up for Global Unity Dance-A-Thon at the St. Paul Lutheran Church, 8100 Shady Grove Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23111, from 7 p.m. until midnight. All proceeds of the event will benefit the Mando School Project.

The Mando School Project is an initiative of the Salamander Bay Rotary Club of Sydney, Australia. The project will add 9th and 10th grades to the rural school in Papua New Guinea, which will teach both academic and agricultural skills.

HYSC is a youth service group made of 35 middle and high school students from Hanover County, Virginia. The group is youth led and members are selected by their peers. The Hanover County Department of Community Resources sponsors the council.

CAKE is a student-led organization that raises funds for education by coordinating bake sales.

Global Citizen Initiative, an Australian non-profit whose mission is to unite young people from across the globe in service, connected HYSC with another youth service group from Parramatta High School in Sydney, Australia. Both groups are performing service projects in their own communities that culminate on the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

“Students from both countries have found meaning in completing their projects at this time because uniting through service and creating cultural awareness is a step towards world peace. This partnership and resulting projects is our way of honoring the lives lost during 9/11,” said HYSC member Alex Farnsworth.

Hands Up for Global Unity Dance-A-Thon is a family-friendly, alcohol-free event. Chaperones will be present, but youth under 13 are to be accompanied by an adult. Tickets are five dollars for students, seven for adults, and children under five are free. Reentry is not allowed. There will be food, a bake sale sponsored by CAKE and entertainment will be provided by a DJ.

For more information or to make reservations, please contact Laura Robertson, Youth Service Specialist with Hanover County Department of Community Resources, at 804-365-4180 or by email at larobertson@co.hanover.va.us.