



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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The Park and Play Summer Series

BURLINGTON, NC—

The Park and Play is an up-fitted cargo van equipped with fitness gear, interactive games and activities promoting movement, wellness and play, helping residents lead healthy lives. Trained staff travel around the city providing structured activities to engage children & families in play. The Park and Play will visit parks, city-wide events, camps, and neighborhoods.

The Park and Play will provide an opportunity to increase access to physical activity. Because it is mobile, it can meet the community where they are providing programs, activities and equipment focusing on active play and physical activity. Transportation to parks and playgrounds is often noted as a barrier to participation in physical activity. In Alamance County 1/3 of residents do not drive their own vehicle because of age, cost, or preference, limiting their access to public parks. The Park and Play overcomes this barrier by delivering programs to those communities with limited access to parks and playgrounds.

The Park and Play began operation in June 2019. A summer schedule has been designed in collaboration with City of Burlington's new Youth Solutions initiative and the Burlington Police Department. The summer schedule for Park and Play places the vehicle in communities that show the highest number of incidents of youth violence. Using information collected from last year's Youth Solution Pop-up Parties, the schedule was designed to include at-risk communities with the highest occurrences of perpetrators and victims of violence in youth 18 years and younger. This information was provided by the BPD crime analyst division. Six locations are being visited weekly for 10 weeks.

The Park and Play vehicle was funded by an Impact Alamance \$50,000 grant and is operated in partnership with the City of Graham. For more information:

www.burlingtonnc.gov/ParkAndPlay.

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Our Mission:

“The City of Burlington is dedicated to providing high quality municipal services within our diverse community in a friendly, professional and efficient manner in order to promote the safety, health, and quality of life of residents and employees.”

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