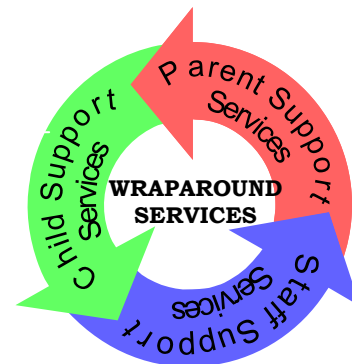


PRESCHOOL PREVENTION TEAM

ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD



The **Preschool Prevention Team** promotes healthy social emotional development of children ages zero to five through a continuum of care that strengthens caregiver-child relationships in collaboration with Alexandria's early childhood community.



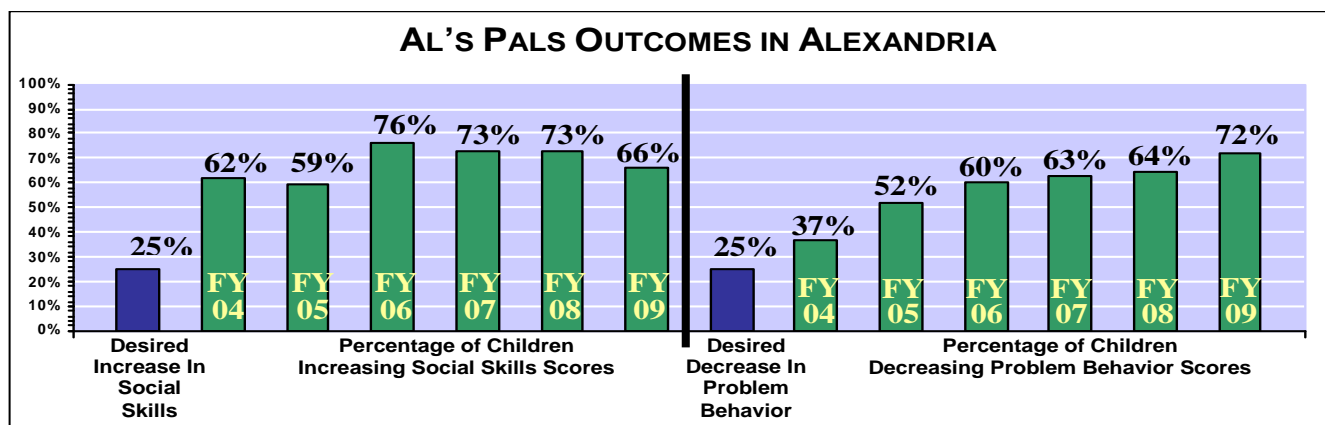
Over the past six years the Preschool Prevention Team:

- trained 1,374 preschool staff at 175 workshops,
- reached 2,899 parents at 411 workshops and support groups,
- worked with 11,900 family members at 860 interactive play groups,
- made 1,585 child and classroom observations,
- provided 1170 parent consultations and 4,060 staff consultations, and
- conducted 1,479 child and family therapy sessions
- oversaw the implementation of *Al's Pals: Kids Making Healthy Choices* with 1,866 children, expanding from 14 classrooms serving high risk preschool students the first year to 34 in FY09.

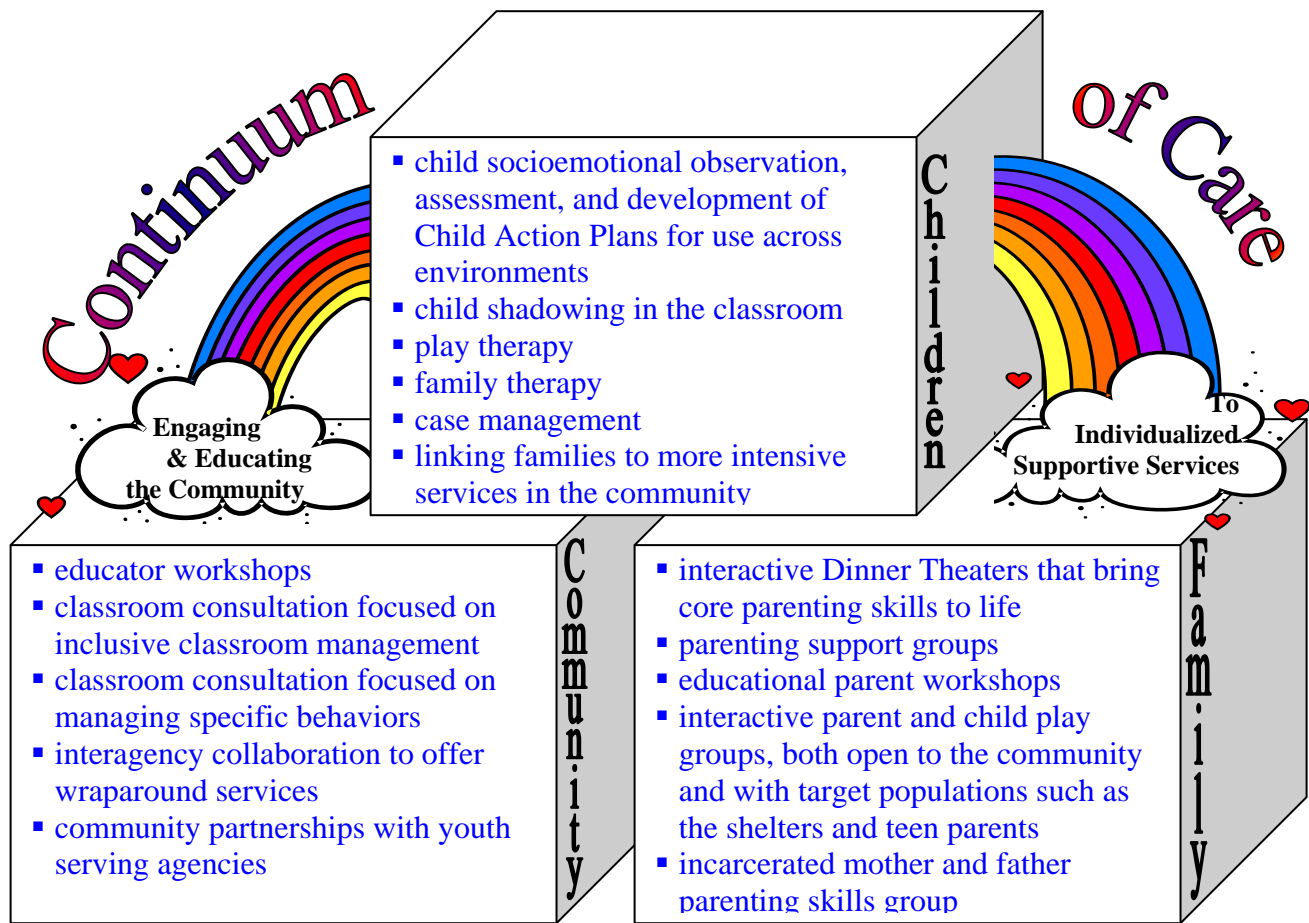
Al's Pals, funded by the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation, is a classroom program with 46 lessons that uses puppet-led discussions, songs, and interactive materials to teach positive coping strategies. Children practice positive ways to:

- express feelings,
- communicate effectively and appropriately,
- accept differences and care about others,
- differentiate between safe and unsafe situations, and
- solve problems peacefully.

Al's Pals parent letters relay information about skills children are learning and how to support positive social skills at home. *Al's Pals works!*



Parents, school staff and community partners consistently report nearly 100% satisfaction with the quality, effectiveness and accessibility of Preschool Prevention Team services. Individual, family, group and classroom services are free and offered at locations and times convenient for families. If you are interested in services or becoming a community partner, contact Lib Gillam at 703-838-4381 x 486 or lib.gillam@alexandriava.gov.



Pictured Left: Community playgroup opportunity for children and their caregivers to practice new skills and promote healthy attachment during floortime exploration.



Pictured right: Visit from Senator Ticer during AI's Pals lesson delivery in local preschool.

MEET THE PRESCHOOL PREVENTION TEAM

Lib Gillam, Licensed Clinical Social Worker & Preschool Prevention Team coordinator, brings 18 years of experience working with children and families.

Arika VanBrunt, Licensed Professional Counselor and Registered Art Therapist, has been working with children and families for 10 years.