



# Downtown Hampton

## CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **ACC COACH OF THE YEAR MIKE LONDON TO GIVE KEYNOTE SPEECH AT LOCAL CHILDREN'S FUNDRAISER**

*Annual breakfast raises money for nationally accredited Downtown Hampton Child Development Center*

HAMPTON, VA – As part of his continued support of the state's education system, University of Virginia football coach Mike London will devote a morning to help disadvantaged Peninsula children attend preschool. He will address "Champions for the Children" as the keynote speaker for the 10th Annual Old Point National Bank Fundraising Breakfast to benefit the children of Downtown Hampton Child Development Center. The event will be held at 8 a.m. on April 25 at the Hampton Roads Convention Center.

Downtown Hampton Child Development Center (DHCDC) is a nonprofit child care center that serves 200 children, ages 6 weeks to 5 years. DHCDC offers the only sliding-scale tuition on the Peninsula, based on income and need, allowing local children to attend the center's nationally accredited preschool programs and start kindergarten prepared.

"I guide all my players to go to class, show class and treat people with dignity and respect—and I am proud to demonstrate this in my support of the Downtown Hampton Children Development Center," stated Mike London, head coach University of Virginia football. "Access to quality educational programs is essential for the long-term success of our children and ultimately our local communities."

A Hampton native, London was named the ACC's coach of the year in November 2011 — on the heels of a regular season in which he helped transform the Virginia football program into a conference title contender. The formula he prescribes to his players of hard work and good citizenship mirrors that of Downtown Hampton Child Development Center.

"We're honored and thrilled to have Coach London speak to our breakfast guests," said Jaynelle Oehler, executive director for Downtown Hampton Child Development Center. "He has demonstrated a real heart for young children and an understanding of how the right beginning will set a child on the path to success."

Sponsored by Old Point National Bank, the event gives guests a chance to learn more about DHCDC while enjoying a seated hot breakfast. While there is no cost to attend, guests will be asked to make a gift to the children at the end. Children who will benefit from donations made that day will be present to greet guests and perform a song.

This event is open to the public, but advance registration is required. All guests must sign up at least one week prior to the fundraising breakfast. More than 400 people are expected. Anyone interested in attending should fill out the online registration form at [www.dhcdc.org/fundraisingbreakfast.htm](http://www.dhcdc.org/fundraisingbreakfast.htm), or call 825-6200.

Downtown Hampton Child Development Center is a nonprofit preschool whose mission is to nurture young children by providing affordable, quality preschool programs that develop the “whole child” and foster school readiness. Serving children ages 6 weeks to 5 years, DHCDC’s nationally accredited preschool program (NAEYC) and degreed teachers put it in the top 7% of child care in the country. DHCDC offers the Peninsula’s only sliding-scale tuition rate, based on family income, with a focus on children from “at risk” and underserved populations, including children with special needs. In 2010, DHCDC became the first center in Hampton to earn a four-star rating through the Virginia Star Quality Initiative. The organization has nurtured and educated children since 1971, through support from public-private partnerships, and has grown to serve nearly 200 children at two locations. As a 501(c)(3) organization, DHCDC still depends on strong support from the community. For more information, please visit [www.dhcdc.org](http://www.dhcdc.org).

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