

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCAL NON-PROFIT PARTNERS TO EXPAND SOCCER PROGRAM FOR PLAYERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Bethesda, MD. – March 3, 2016 - Devenio, Inc., the newly formed non-profit, benefitting Down syndrome and other developmental disability groups, is thrilled to announce the expansion and partnership for their *Fun Bunch* soccer program for children with special needs.

“At devenio’s core, we are about inspired community building, and that is what we are doing with Fun Bunch. Not only are our players learning how to play soccer on a team, our volunteers are also learning about differences and how those differences may not be the barriers one might assume. Acceptance and inclusion do not just happen. They are formed by experiences and that is what is occurring on our field.” Says Gena Mitchell, President & Founder of devenio.

Fun Bunch, a free soccer program for children with special needs ages 5-16 years of age, was created five years ago by Mitchell, and her husband, Brian. The first season had six kids and has grown to a roster of thirty-eight players. Community partnerships have been the pillars of success to the Fun Bunch program. Beginning with the generosity of Little Flower Church & School located in Bethesda, MD for donating space on their turf field for the past four years, as well as Rockville Soccer who donated balls, cleats and jerseys to the team this past fall.

Mitchell comments, “The latest partnership with PPA allows devenio to expand Fun Bunch to include more players locally, as well as new teams throughout the DC Metro area. It is our plan to add two additional teams in fall 2016, and two more in spring of 2017. This has been something our board of directors and I have been talking about for the past nine months and this partnership allows us to move quickly. We are thrilled to have found a partner who aligns so closely with our goals and mission.”

Sarah Albus, Director of Community Outreach for PPA says, “We are very excited about working with devenio and their Fun Bunch Soccer Program this spring. The PPA was built on the foundation of creating great experiences for our players while instilling an appreciation for teamwork, kindness, hard work, and community. This partnership provides a fantastic avenue to grow our mission. We are eager to foster this relationship with devenio and the wonderful community it serves.”

The Player Progression Academy (PPA) is a youth soccer organization based in the Metro-DC area dedicated to creating spectacular experiences and holistic development through sports. www.playerprogressionacademy.com

For additional information about Fun Bunch and devenio, inc, go to: www.devenio.org. Contact: Gena Mitchell, President & Founder @ devenio, inc. gena@devenio.org