



ALIVE! *Wise*

Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically

Summer 2010

Thank You

My term as ALIVE! President is ending. On July first I will “pass the gavel” to the capable hands of President-Elect Cheryl Malloy. As I leave the presidency, I would like to express my gratitude.

First I would thank the hundreds of volunteers who make ALIVE! what it is: a volunteer-driven organization. In addition to those serving on the Board and management committees, volunteers actually deliver ALIVE!’s services. In fact, five of ALIVE!’s seven programs are managed and operated entirely by volunteers. This keeps the organization’s overhead rate down to just 10% of annual budget, an impressive indicator of efficient operations.

There are many others I would thank, particularly ALIVE!’s dedicated staff members and loyal donors -- including congregations, individuals, foundations, government agencies, businesses and associations. However, on a personal note, I would like to express special appreciation to the ALIVE! Board of Directors for giving me the opportunity to serve and for modeling interfaith action. It has been a joy to work with you as you represent your Baha’i, Baptist, Catholic, Disciples-of-Christ, Episcopalian, Jewish, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Unitarian congregations. United, you govern with wide perspective and understanding of the community.

If any reader notices the absence of his or her faith from this list, please consider this your invitation. If your congregation is not already affiliated with ALIVE!, please affiliate. If your congregation has affiliated but has not sent a representative to the ALIVE! Board, please send a representative. The Board is where community and faith representatives come together to be sure that ALIVE! helps Alexandrians in need in an effective and caring way, acting on our shared values.

And finally, a word of thanks to the individuals



Diana Day

MATCHING GRANT ENCOURAGES NEW DONATIONS

By Daniel Malloy

A generous longtime giver to ALIVE! is helping to build the organization’s sustained giving level by offering to match all new and increased donations, up to \$50,000.

Gene Steuerle said ALIVE!’s wide breadth of programs for Alexandrians and the efficiency of its operations have made it one of his favorite charities.

He wrote in an email that he hopes “this type of challenge grant will help ALIVE! achieve its goal of ratcheting up to a higher level of service in the community. To get there, it obviously needs more donors or existing donors able and willing to move to a higher level of giving, sustained over time. Hopefully, the challenge is simply one more way we join together to build further on the achievements of so many who have contributed to ALIVE! and to the broader Alexandria community.”

Steuerle will, over a three-year span, match new donations or an increase over 2009 giving from individuals and family foundations. He hopes that the new and higher giving levels will continue and not just constitute a one-time donation spike. Also, Steuerle hopes that congregational giving to ALIVE! or individual giving to other charities will not decrease as a result of the challenge grant.

Steuerle, who has given challenge grants to other organizations, knows that the grants can be successful enticements to long-term higher giving levels. He pitched the idea to ALIVE! late last year, said Cathy Thompson, a former ALIVE! president and friend of Steuerle’s.

“He has really done a great deal for ALIVE! and for him to continue in this fashion has meant so much not only to the Development Council, but to ALIVE! in general,” Thompson said. “It really is a great gift for us.”



Longtime donor Gene Steuerle says that ALIVE!’s breadth of programs and efficiency of operations make it one of his favorite charities. He is offering a matching grant to help build the organization’s sustained giving.

Notes from the Executive Director



Ken Naser,
ALIVE!'s Executive Director

It's not very often that I pick up a nationally distributed newsletter and read a local story; a really local story. The June 2010 edition of the AARP Bulletin carried a piece entitled "Virginia News: Food banks struggle to keep up with growing demand in Virginia." As I read the story, each sentence began sounding more and more familiar. It was a story about the ALIVE! Last Saturday Food Distribution program held at one of our three sites. It featured several of our clients at the Church of the Resurrection site on Beaugard Street. Only when one went to the on-line link provided at the end did I see a reference to ALIVE!

Also in the story was a reference to an upcoming effort of the AARP and Ruritan Clubs taking place all over the country. On September 11, 2010, AARP and Ruritan Clubs will collect food for their local food banks. Locations will probably be announced in July at www.createthegood.org

I don't believe Alexandria has a Ruritan Club but we all know a good food bank that will welcome any food drives conducted by folks at AARP and anyone else who wants to help.
Ken



Ken Naser Named Nonprofit Leader of the Year

On April 30th, at the Spring for Alexandria 12th Annual Volunteer Alexandria Business Philanthropy Summit, ALIVE!'s Executive Director, Ken Naser received the 2010 Nonprofit Leader of the Year award. Ken has been Executive Director for over five years, after thirty years of volunteering for ALIVE!. The event program stated, "In short, Ken does it all. He is a trusted, knowledgeable and experienced presence for ALIVE! in the Alexandria community." Pictured (L-R) are Assistant Food Chair Suzanne Lamb, Ken, and President Cheryl Malloy.

Congregational Representatives With Perfect Attendance!

(L-R) Mike Oliver representing Church of St. Clement and Susanne Arnold and Dr. Constance Richardson of St. Rita Catholic Church were recognized at the June Board meeting for having attended all of ALIVE!'s FY 2010 Board Meetings. Congratulations!



ALIVE!

President: Diana Day, Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington
 Vice President – Cheryl Malloy, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
 Treasurer --Rick Glassco, Immanuel Church-On-The-Hill
 Recording Secretary – Jann Masterson, Convergence: A Creative Community of Faith
 Corresponding Secretary – Vivian Webb, Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community
 Kenneth D. Naser – Executive Director
 Kathy Richards – Editor, ALIVE! Wire

Officers elected for FY 2011

Officers were elected by the Board of Directors during their June 1st meeting at Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church. New officers include Cheryl Malloy, taking over from Diana Day as President; Ellen Brown, replacing Cheryl as Vice President; Eric Winakur, will become Recording Secretary following Jann Masterson; and Tony Tighe, will replace Margie Carpenter as Assistant Treasurer (payroll). In addition, Stacy Carlson becomes Chair of the Audit Committee, John Bohm takes over from Gerry Hebert as Publicity Chair and Beth McFarland is stepping down as co-chair for Congregational Representatives. Thanks to all who have served and continue to serve and to those joining the Board!

ALIVE! Officers and Committee Chairs

July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011

President	Cheryl Malloy – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Vice President	Ellen Brown – Community Volunteer
Recording Secretary	Eric Winakur – Agudas Achim Congregation
Corresponding Secretary	Vivian Webb – Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community
Treasurer	Rick Glassco – Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill
Asst. Treasurer (substitute)	Deborah Schaffer – Beth El Hebrew Congregation
Asst. Treasurer (payroll)	Tony Tighe – Community Volunteer

Program Committee Chairs

ALIVE! House	Susanne Arnold – St. Rita Catholic Church
Child Development Center	Ellen Brown – Community Volunteer
Family Emergency	Linda Coleman – Trinity United Methodist Church
Food	Jean Moore – Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community
Furniture	Mike Diffley – St. Mary's Catholic Church
Housewares	Addie Hebert – Fairlington United Methodist Church

Management Committee Chairs

Audit Committee	Stacy Carlson – St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Congregational Reps Cttee	Ann Marie Hay – Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington
Development Council	Marian Van Landingham – Beverley Hills United Methodist Church
Personnel Committee	Cathy Thompson – Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community
Publicity Committee	John Bohm – St. Joseph's Catholic Church



New officers and committee chairs: Eric Winakur, Recording Secretary; Tony Tighe, Asst. Treasurer (Payroll); Stacy Carlson, Audit Committee Chair; and John Bohm, Chair of the Publicity Committee were elected at the June Board Meeting.

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?"
Then said I, "Here am I. Send me!"*

Isaiah 6:8



Annual Walkathon Success!

By Martha Kettle

It was a near record breaking 87 degrees on May 2nd, when 121 brave folks participated in the 29th annual Child Development Center (CDC) Step ALIVE! Walkathon. By all accounts the day was a big success. Eighteen local businesses and associations in addition to twenty-four ALIVE! member congregations sponsored the Walkathon! And many individuals found sponsors who greatly multiplied the funds raised by our hardy walkers.

Bagpiper Mark Baban leads the way at the beginning of this year's Step ALIVE! walkathon to support the Child Development Center.



An enthusiastic group of supporters from St. Joseph's Catholic Church gathers to begin the 2010 walkathon in the parking lot at First Christian Church.

Step Alive! was led by Bagpiper, Mark Baban, as they departed First Christian Church headed for Market Square in Old Town. The bobbing mass of lime-green T-shirts worked up a thirst in the hot and humid weather, making water stops at Alfred Street Baptist and Christ Church more appreciated than ever. The children's choir from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington and the band New Mode Grass featuring Fred Nelson of First Christian Church, provided lively entertainment on the Market Square stage. Once back at First Christian, the walkers enjoyed the traditional picnic in the cool of the community hall.

A team of over thirty volunteers from ALIVE! congregations and generous local businesses pitched in to make the event a success. Too numerous to list, you all know who you are. Thanks to all from the bottom of the hearts of the CDC Committee and ALIVE! office staff.

While the total raised by the Walkathon continues to rise as more supporters turn in funds, gross receipts from the event are already over \$27,000. And, it's not too late to make a contribution. The ALIVE! office is still gladly accepting contributions.



Children's Choir from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington performing on the Market Square stage during the walkathon

CDC Wish List

"Simple Green" cleaner
 Regular, unscented bleach
 Johnson's baby shampoo
 Unscented baby wipes
 Kleenex
 Lysol spray
 Sanitizing wipes
 Rolls of paper towels

Step ALIVE! 2010 Partners

Benefactor

CNA Analysis & Solutions
Staff of the Military Officers Association of America
Renner and Company, CPA, P.C.

Pacesetter

American Physical Therapy Association

Leader

Lindsay Automotive Group

Patron

Burke & Herbert Bank
Food Matters
Gymboree Play and Music
Motley Fool
Seyfarth Shaw

Friend

Allan Garnaas Associates
BLT Shirt Printers
Booz Allen Hamilton
Minute Man Press
National Association of Retired Federal Employees
Pollard Construction
Reunions
Judith Willard

Congregations

Agudas Achim Congregation
Beth El Hebrew Congregation
Beverly Hills Community United Methodist Church
Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
Christ Church
Church of the Resurrection
Church of Saint Clement
Day Alliance of the UU Church of Arlington
Ebenezer Baptist Church
Fairlington Presbyterian Church
Fairlington United Methodist Church
First Agape Baptist Community of Faith
First Christian Church
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Grace Episcopal Church
Immanuel Church-On-The-Hill
Meade Memorial Episcopal Church
Saint Joseph's Catholic Church
Saint Mary's Catholic Church
Saint Paul's Episcopal Church
Saint Rita Catholic Church
Trinity United Methodist Church
Washington Street United Methodist Church
Westminster Presbyterian Church

Thank You President's letter continued from page 1

who set the example of leadership that I have tried to follow. Most inspirational to me have been ALIVE!'s hard-working volunteer program chairs, who oversee and often manage ALIVE!'s programs, providing the leadership that makes ALIVE! possible: ALIVE! House Chair Susanne Arnold, Child Development Center Chair Ellen Brown, Family Emergency Program Chair Linda Coleman, Food Chair Jean Moore, Furniture Chair Mike Diffley, and Housewares Chair Addie Hebert. I also have been awed by the example set by the past presidents of ALIVE! who continue to fill leadership positions. Several have served the community through ALIVE! for more than 25 years: Board members Mike Oliver and Bill Willis, Executive Director Ken Naser, Personnel Committee Chair Cathy Thompson, and Treasurer Rick Glassco. They provide the continuity that keeps ALIVE! grounded in its core principles, even as it evolves to meet the changing needs of the community.

With gratitude,
Diana Day
ALIVE! President



CFC Code:
44658



United Way Code:
8352

FEP Helps Case by Case

By Linda Coleman

As volunteer Chair of ALIVE!'s Family Emergency Program (FEP), most of my time is spent on what I refer to as "administrative chores". I've long envied FEP's volunteer drivers for the face-to-face contact they have with folks in need of emergency food when they arrive at their doors with bags of much needed groceries. Unlike ALIVE!'s other programs, FEP's volunteers, with the exception of the aforementioned drivers, labor in a tiny office, either handling desk duties or packing food orders. But we know in our hearts and minds that the recipients of our financial assistance and emergency food are grateful.

I am always happy to hear from those making referrals to FEP about folks in need in our community and how much our assistance was able to help. I wanted to share with you portions of a recent email I received, filling me in on the circumstances of some of the families ALIVE! FEP has recently helped.

In relating the challenges her clients have, her opening paragraph read: "Generally speaking, the most difficult issue(s) is the combination of low or no pay, rising rents, and lack of health insurance. Sporadic employment and unemployment are a plague at the moment. Women gladly care for other's children at a daily rate of \$20 for a 12-hour day. First, because they know the other parent can't afford to pay more, and second because \$20 here and \$20 there becomes enough to buy food for the week."

She went on to describe recipients she has referred for financial assistance from ALIVE!. One family, a single mother, immigrated from Lebanon with her children in 1998. She has a green card and, in the past, has supported her family working as a housekeeper. She's an educated lady who speaks both Arabic and English and is capable of doing much more but, sadly, can't even find housekeeping work at this point. ALIVE! is helping her pay her utility bills.

Another family, a grandmother and her grandson, are living in one room in an apartment they share with two other people. The grandmother is working two jobs to make ends meet. Weekdays, she works at Marshalls and on the weekends at COSTCO. Her grandson, a ninth grader at Minnie Howard School, is described as "very bright and very personable" but because his grandmother must work two jobs, spends much of his time alone. Recently the FEP was able to help her pay for some important medical tests.

There are so many situations sadly similar to the two described above. As we go about our daily routine, we really don't see.....really don't realize.....how many of our fellow Alexandrians are struggling mightily to make it from month to month. Because of the generosity of those who support ALIVE!, the Family Emergency Program budget for the fiscal year ending June 30th of this year was \$260,000, an over-\$60,000 increase from last fiscal year. And yet, everyone who needed help couldn't be helped when our monthly allocation of funding was depleted.

We, the ALIVE! Family Emergency Program volunteers, are so grateful for the wonderful support of our community and hope that the generous support of our friends and neighbors will continue.



FEP Office Volunteers

Kathy Dewey (standing) packs bags of emergency food for home delivery while Vivian Webb handles requests from social workers and member congregations for financial assistance in the Family Emergency Program office.

Food Program Wish List



Canned Meat

Tuna Fish

Complete Pancake Mix
(Needs Only Water)

Syrup

Dried Milk

Soup

Coffee and Tea

Money to buy Fresh Eggs, Meat and Produce!

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood- By Susanne Arnold

Saturday, May 22, 6 am- and the volunteers were there. Set up had begun for the annual ALIVE! House Sidewalk Sale. Ten hours later they went home to rest, having earned almost \$4000 for our shelter. Some volunteers had also worked for days organizing and pricing the donations. Organized by neighbor Ann Matikan, other neighbors, Board members, staff, Keyettes, and just friends – all cheerfully gave their time to support ALIVE! House. We thank Ann, Kim Albieg, Aysha Arshad, Jed Arnold, Marie Alice Arnold, Reshma Begum, Marty Bently, Lindsay Boudreau, Joyce Braxton, Daniel Buzby, Margie Carpenter, Cynthia Caples, Brigid Davis, Nora Davis, Margaret Dhillon, Patrick Grasso, Meron Hailu, Cindy Hart, Sandra Jorgenson, Suzanne Lamb, Beth McFarland, Cheryl Malloy, Abby Marcus, Mike Oliver, Mary Riley, Lisa Toledo, Susanne Arnold, Dimitri Warren, and Preston Perry.

And special thanks to neighbors Bill Commack of Cloverdale LLC, for use of his empty store on King Street and to Boyd Walker for use of the Ice House to store and sort the donations.

It's true – ALIVE! House gets by with much help from our friends and neighbors.



Brigid Davis, the Congregational Representative for Beverley Hills Community UMC, holds the sign she used to advertise the very successful May 22nd ALIVE! House Sidewalk Sale.

Letter Carriers Fill the Pantry



On May 8th (L-R) Food Program Assistant Chair Deborah Patterson, Jacob Patterson-Stein and Katie Odell helped deliver a truck load of food from the Trade Center Post Office to ALIVE!'s food warehouse. The National Association of Letter Carriers collected over 6,000 pounds of donated canned and packaged food to fill ALIVE!'s pantry for the Last Saturday Food Distribution and Family Emergency Programs. Thanks to all who donated and to all who helped!

Grant provides help for clients

A grant from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington has provided the needed funding for a social worker to assist Food Program Clients seeking food stamps (SNAP) or eligibility for benefits from other programs directed towards low income residents of Alexandria.

Pictured is social worker Yoshabel Velazquez (R) counsels a client at the Last Saturday Food Distribution at Church of the Resurrection in March.



ALIVE! House Wish List

- Detergents - dishwashing & laundry detergents (medium size)
- Cleaning Supplies: Carpet Fresh; bathroom, hard surface & window cleansers
- Laundry supplies: dryer sheets, softener, bleach, ammonia.
- Paper towels and toilet paper
- Aluminum foil, food storage bags
- Trash bags - large and tall kitchen
- Tylenol – adult & child
- Bus Tokens
- Metro Cards

ALIVE! Wine

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www.alive-inc.org
E-mail: alivetoo@aol.com

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U.S. Postage Paid
Alexandria, VA
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ALIVE!, founded in 1969, is a nonprofit organization devoted to helping Alexandrians facing emergency situations become self-sufficient members of the community. ALIVE! has grown from a handful of organizations and volunteers to a vigorous organization of 41 congregations and many volunteers.

ALIVE! offers Alexandrians in need help through ALIVE! House Shelter, Furniture, Housewares, Food Pantry, Family Emergency, Child Development Center and Last Saturday Food Distribution Programs.

Contact ALIVE! at
703- 837-9300
E-mail : alivetoo@aol.com
www.alive-inc.org

Summer 2010 Calendar

July

- 31 **Last Saturday Food Distribution:** Church of the Resurrection, Cora Kelly Recreation Center, and Ladrey High Rise
Food Collection: Meade Memorial, Roberts Memorial, St. Andrews, St Rita, Westminster Presbyterian.
Furniture Collection: St. Mary's Catholic Church and Trinity United Methodist

August

- 28 **Last Saturday Food Distribution:** Church of the Resurrection, Cora Kelly Recreation Center, and Ladrey High Rise
Food Collection: Commonwealth Baptist, Ebenezer Baptist, St Paul's Episcopal, Third Baptist, Washington Street, Zion Baptist
Furniture Collection: Alfred Street Baptist and Downtown Baptist

September

- 7 **ALIVE! Board Meeting** – 7 PM at First Christian Church, 2723 King Street
25 **Last Saturday Food Distribution:** Church of the Resurrection, Cora Kelly Recreation Center and Ladrey High Rise
Food Collection: Alfred Street Baptist, Beverley Hills Community, Church of St. Clement, Fairlington UMC, Spiritual Assembly of Baha'is
Furniture Collection: Agudas Achim, Beth El and Immanuel Church on the Hill