



ALIVE! *Wise*

Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically

Summer 2011

Planning Our Destiny

“Our destiny remains our choice,” declared President Obama in the State of the Union address on January 25, 2011. These words ring particularly true for ALIVE! as we have undertaken long range planning this year. With the help of Steve Worth from Plexus Consulting, ALIVE! has, over the past 9 months, been working through the steps toward planning ALIVE!’s future. We have talked to community leaders, our volunteers, our clients, our congregations, other service providers in Alexandria and the Board of Directors, determining the needs in the community as well as ALIVE!’s ability to meet those needs. It is clear that we are meeting less than one-third of the need in most of our programs and maybe as little as one-fourth. Our choice has been whether we will continue doing what we are already doing and just improving our delivery system, or will we take a major step forward and expand our programs to meet more of the need.

A lot of time and effort has gone into identifying ALIVE!’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges. From what we have heard from those outside of ALIVE! as well as those inside the organization, our strengths are more numerous than our weaknesses and the opportunities outweigh the challenges. We are in a good position financially, in the quality of our staff and volunteers, and in our reputation among others in Alexandria and among our member congregations.

The ALIVE! Board met on March 5 and again on April 5 to discuss the future of the organization and our role in helping those in need in Alexandria. We reached a strong consensus that we should try to take the next steps toward broadening our reach and enhancing our programs to reach more families in need in our community. We decided not to expand into new programs but rather to build on our strengths in our current programs and shore up our weaknesses.

Over the next few months we will be refining business plans and conducting a fundraising feasibility analysis to determine whether our enhanced goals are reasonable and achievable. By this fall, we hope to lay out publicly how we will pursue our vision of “alleviating the suffering caused by poverty and dramatically improving the lives of those in need in the City of Alexandria.”

“Our destiny remains our choice” but it is critical that we plan thoughtfully and work together to achieve that destiny.



Cheryl Malloy

30th Annual CDC Walkathon Was Most Successful Ever!

By Ellen Brown

On May 1st, approximately 120 walkers participated in the 30th annual Child Development Center (CDC) Step ALIVE! Walkathon. This year the CDC honored the memory and accomplishments of Ruby Tucker, a long-time Alexandria activist and CDC teacher, director, and supporter. Ruby’s family and friends were there to join in the festivities.

While the total raised by the Walkathon continues to rise, as more supporters turn in funds, gross receipts from the event are already over \$35,000. And, it’s not too late to make a donation. The ALIVE! office is still gladly accepting contributions.

Bagpiper Marsha Bell started things off as the walkers departed First Christian Church heading for Old Town and Market Square. A light rain brought out a canopy of colorful umbrellas creating quite a sight and confirming the loyalty of the CDC supporters. The band, New Mode Grass, offered much appreciated entertainment on the Market Square stage. Alfred Street Baptist Church and Christ Church provided water stops along the way. Once back at First Christian, the walkers enjoyed the company of fellow participants and a well-deserved picnic.



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Notes from the Executive Director

Step ALIVE! Walkathon a tribute to the memory of Ruby Tucker.

The rain started just as the walkers were gathering to start this year's Step ALIVE! Walkathon on Sunday, May 1. The Walk began with a few memories of Ruby Tucker and the introduction of her daughter, Pat Tyler (see adjoining picture.) I recalled how it had been thirty years earlier at the first ALIVE! Walkathon in 1982 that I met Ruby. She was a teacher in the ALIVE! Child Development Center (CDC) at the time and had picked up then Director, Sister Marita Ellis at the Walkathon and brought her back to the CDC. (I don't think they walked the entire way that afternoon— back in those early days, the Walkathon was a half marathon – 13.1 miles!)



Executive Director Ken Naser with Pat Tyler

Opening remarks were also made by ALIVE! Board President Cheryl Malloy and Ruby's friend and fellow church member David Taylor from First Agape Baptist Community of Faith. Ruby was instrumental in securing the original accreditation for the CDC, and this year, we celebrate as our Child Development Center once again has been accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Ruby, of course, went on to succeed Sister Marita as the Director of the CDC and remained in that position until her retirement. Ruby was remembered not just for her more than 25 years with ALIVE! but also for her life-long commitment to her Alexandria community. She served tirelessly and will always be fondly remembered.

Ken



ALIVE! Chosen for 2011-12 Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington

The Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington announced in June that ALIVE! has been selected to be featured in the 2010-11 Catalogue. A panel of 110 expert reviewers from area foundations, corporate giving programs, and peer non-profit organizations evaluated 270 applications; ALIVE! is one of 70 outstanding nonprofits to be featured this year. The Catalogue provides charities with a stamp of approval that tells donors they can invest with confidence because the Catalogue vets its family of nonprofits with great care.



ALIVE!

President: Cheryl Malloy, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
 Vice President: Ellen Brown, Community Representative
 Treasurer: Rick Glassco, Immanuel Church-On-The-Hill
 Recording Secretary: Eric Winakur, Agudas Achim Congregation
 Kenneth D. Naser: Executive Director
 Kathy Richards: Editor, ALIVE! Wire

ALIVE! House Happenings:

Alexandria Middle Schooler Makes a Difference for ALIVE! House

Samantha Rebecca Archer (Sammy), a middle school student at St. Stephens & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, wanted to make a difference for those less fortunate, and she knew just how to do it. She encouraged guests invited to her Bat Mitzvah to donate to a local charity. Sammy asked her neighbors to give her some ideas. Many of them encouraged her to look at ALIVE! as an organization that provides services to families in need in Alexandria.

Of ALIVE!'s six programs, Sammy specifically chose ALIVE! House, a transitional housing program for single women and families with children, in Alexandria. The



generosity of Sammy's guests and friends resulted in cash donations of more than \$3,000, plus gift cards – as well as cleaning supplies for the residents.

Sammy said, "It made me feel great to know that my contribution was going to help families in need, and I was amazed by the generosity of my family and friends willing to help ALIVE!"

Sammy recently toured ALIVE! House to drop off the contributions. She really enjoyed seeing for herself how homelike the facility is and how the donations she brought in will help make a difference in keeping it a nice place for the residents to live.

When asked about what she would tell her friends about this experience, Sammy said proudly, "I would tell my friends that ALIVE! is a great organization that helps many struggling families. Seeing ALIVE! House made everything very real to me." She went on to say, "I realized for the first time how much these very basic things, like cleaning supplies, meant to these families."

Sammy Archer is shown at ALIVE! House with some of the many cleaning supplies that were donated in her honor.



Helping the Homeless Walkathon News:

2010 Recap

ALIVE! House's final numbers for the 2010 Fannie Mae Help the Homeless Program were:
740 Walkers who helped raise \$35,003.80.

An additional \$1603.50 was donated by churches & organizations directly to ALIVE! House.

Anonymous cash donations of \$179 bought Metro tickets to the National Mall for House residents, staff and student walkers.

Helping the Homeless 2011

Kick Off June 24th!

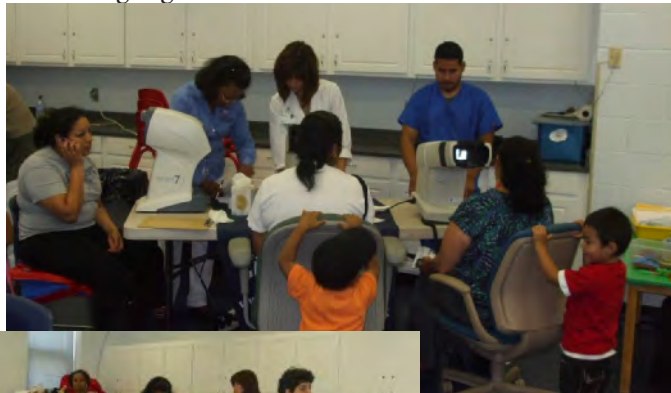
Our goal is 850 walkers to earn an incentive of \$15,000!

We can do it; only 110 more walkers needed.

Get your congregation ready!

LETTER CARRIERS HELP STAMP OUT HUNGER

On Saturday, May 14th, Branch 567 of the National Association of Letter Carriers picked up food left by Alexandrians near their mailboxes and delivered it to local food banks.. ALIVE! received approximately 2000 pounds of food that day to help fill our pantry for the Summer. Pictured at right with the Stamp Out Hunger banner are (clockwise) Rev. Chris Furr with his son Noah of First Christian Church of Alexandria; Ken Naser, Stowe Boyd and Wendy Billet of ALIVE!; and kneeling, Brian McCormick, the Food Drive Coordinator for Branch 567. Thanks to all who donated and to the Letter Carriers for “delivering” again!



Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus provide glaucoma testing during the Last Saturday Food Distribution (LSFD) at Cora Kelly on May 28th. (Pictured at left) They had previously volunteered at the Church of the Resurrection in April. Eye doctors are just the newest of the “Special Services” that are being introduced at LSFD sites. The program has already offered flu shots, dental care, help with registering for SNAP (food stamps) and a special Farmer’s Market offer, as well as information on employment opportunities and English as a Second Language courses. Food Program Chair Jean Moore is always looking for other ways that we can help those in need with additional information and services. Please let ALIVE! (alivetoo@aol.com) know if you have any suggestions.

Alexandrians receiving food from ALIVE! from January 1 to May 31, 2011

	Households	Individuals
Jan. 2011	685	2077
Feb. 2011	783	2652
March 2011	695	2305
Apr. 2011	708	2330
May. 2011	690	2194



Food Program

Wish List

- Canned Spaghetti Sauce
- Canned Meat and Tuna
- Complete Pancake Mix
(Needs only Water)
- Syrup
- Crackers
- Dried Milk
- Jello
- Coffee and Tea
- Money to buy fresh eggs,
meat and produce!

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Nineteen local businesses, twenty-eight ALIVE! member congregations, other organizations, and many individuals sponsored the Walkathon. (See list of Sponsors on page 7.) Many walkers gathered pledges of support that greatly multiplied the funds raised. Jill Robinson, from Trinity United Methodist Church, was responsible for almost \$5,000 in contributions. Groups of students from the Virginia Theological Seminary and Georgetown Medical School raised funds as well, and, of course, Alive! congregations fielded teams of CDC supporters. Also, once again, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill organized a “mini-walk” for the children of the congregation, with about 30 participants. Each walker and each contribution is greatly appreciated.

Volunteers from ALIVE! congregations, Alive! Staff, and friends of Alive! worked hard to put this event together. Thanks to all from the CDC students and their families and from the CDC Committee. Ruby Tucker would be pleased and proud.

ALIVE! Board Members Mike Oliver (seated), Jean Horace, Herb McKoy and David Taylor welcome students from Georgetown University to the Walkathon.



ALIVE! HOUSE WISH LIST

- 4 Laptops for residents
- Camp Supplies for 4 former ALIVE! House kids going to Camp Kikoka:
 - 4 containers of sun screen
 - 4 containers of bug repellent
 - 4 sunglasses - 2 boys & 2 girls
 - 4 water bottles
 - 4 flashlights
 - 4 disposable cameras
 - 4 toiletry carriers

CDC WISH LIST

- Children’s Gardening Tools
- Tissues
- Construction Paper
- Washable Finger Paint
- Jumbo Washable Markers
- Jumbo Glue Sticks



CFC Code:
44658



United Way Code:
8352

Sponsors for the 2011 StepALIVE! Walkathon

Benefactors

Alexandria Toyota-Scion
Fairlington United Methodist Men
Renner & Company

Leaders

American Physical Therapy Association
Seyfarth Shaw
Stafford Foundation
Thomas J. Fannon

Friends

Allan Garnaas Associates	My Organic Market
BLT Shirt Printers	New Mode Grass
Frank Key	Pollard Construction
James and Joyce Garrett	Redmon, Peyton, Braswell, L.L.P.
Giant Food Supermarkets	Reunions
Harris Teeter	Rocklands Barbeque and Grilling Company
James and Juliette McNeil	Safeway
Johnnie and Kim Brown	Virginia Commerce Bank
Judith Willard	Whole Foods Market
Minuteman Press	

Congregations

Agudas Achim	Fairlington United Methodist Church
Alfred Street Baptist Church	First Agape Baptist Community of Faith
Beth El Hebrew Congregation	First Christian Church
Beverly Hills Community United Methodist Church	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community	Grace Episcopal Church
Christ Church	Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill
Church of the Resurrection	Spiritual Assembly of Baha'is of Alexandria
Church of St. Clement	St. Joseph's Catholic Church
Day Alliance of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington	St. Mary's Catholic Church
Del Ray United Methodist Church	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Downtown Baptist Church	St. Rita Catholic Church
Ebenezer Baptist Church	Third Baptist Church
Emmanuel Episcopal Church	Trinity United Methodist Church
Fairlington Presbyterian Church	Westminster Presbyterian Church

ALIVE! Wine

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Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
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ALIVE!, founded in 1969, is a nonprofit organization devoted to helping Alexandrians facing emergency situations or long-term needs become capable of assuming self-reliant roles in the community. ALIVE! has grown from a handful of organizations and volunteers to a vigorous organization of 41 congregations and hundreds of volunteers.

ALIVE! offers Alexandrians in need help through ALIVE! House Shelter, Furniture, Housewares, Emergency Food and Financial Assistance, 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 2011 Calendar

July

30 **Last Saturday Food Distribution:** Church of the Resurrection, Cora Kelly Recreation Center and Ladrey Senior High Rise

Food Collection: Meade Memorial, Roberts Memorial, St. Andrews UMC, St Rita Catholic, Westminster Presbyterian

Furniture Collection: Emmanuel Episcopal, First Baptist, St. Mary's Catholic, and Trinity United Methodist Churches

August

27 **Last Saturday Food Distribution:** Church of the Resurrection, Cora Kelly Recreation Center and Ladrey Senior High Rise

Food Collection: Commonwealth Baptist, Ebenezer Baptist, St Paul's Episcopal, Third Baptist, Washington Street UMC, Zion Baptist

Furniture Collection: Alfred Street Baptist and Downtown Baptist Churches

September

6 **Board Meeting:** 6:30 PM, Christ Episcopal Church, 118 N. Washington St.

24 **Last Saturday Food Distribution:** Church of the Resurrection, Cora Kelly Recreation Center and Ladrey Senior High Rise

Food Collection: Alfred Street Baptist, Beverly 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 Congregations