



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ALEXANDRIA NONPROFITS AWARDED \$105,000  
IN UNITED WAY NCA COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS**

*Local Dollars Target Local Education, Financial Stability and Health Critical Needs*

**WASHINGTON, DC**, February 10, 2015 – Today, United Way of the National Capital Area (United Way NCA) announced that it is awarding Community Impact grants totaling \$105,000 to 10 nonprofit member organizations serving Alexandria. Each of the grants directly addresses United Way NCA’s focus areas of education, financial stability and health. This year United Way NCA is awarding over \$1 million in Community Impact grants to member nonprofits serving the National Capital Area thanks to the support of employees participating in 800 workplace giving campaigns at more than 3,000 locations throughout the greater Washington region.

The grantees were honored this evening at a brief ceremony with Alexandria Mayor William D. Euille, members of the Alexandria City Council, and Acting City Manager Mark B. Jinks. Specifically, the Alexandria grantees are: ALIVE!, Inc., Bethany House of Northern Virginia, Inc., Community Lodgings, Inc., Computer C.O.R.E., Food & Friends, Inc., Housing Trust Fund of Northern Virginia, Inc., Just Neighbors Ministry, Inc., Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area, Inc., National Center for Children and Families, and SCAN of Northern Virginia, Inc.

The Community Impact grant awarded to [Food & Friends](#) will help with costs associated with the preparation and delivery of more than 15,000 meals for individuals and families in Alexandria facing HIV/AIDS and cancer. “Community Impact grants have helped Food & Friends ensure specialized meal delivery and nutrition services to our critically ill neighbors in Alexandria and across the region,” said Food & Friends Corporate & Foundation Gifts Director Tamika Hodnett. “Funding from the United Way of the National Capital Area has been integral to the work of Food & Friends for over 20 years.”

With support from the Community Impact grant program, [ALIVE!](#) can provide emergency food and financial assistance to thousands of individuals each year. “Because of the United Way Community Impact grant, ALIVE!’s Family Emergency Program is able to be there for Alexandria families in crisis,” said ALIVE! Inc. Executive Director Diane Charles. “For a family living near the poverty line, a crisis can be the loss of a job, an illness, an unexpected expense, or the effects of the government shutdown. Without emergency assistance, these changes in fortune can have disastrous consequences, including homelessness.”

Every year, United Way NCA solicits Community Impact funding proposals from its member nonprofit organizations for specific programs and work in United Way NCA’s focus areas of education, financial stability and health. The funding decision process includes recommendations from regional volunteer, citizen-led task forces working with United Way NCA’s Regional Councils, as well as area nonprofits, governments, and business leaders, to determine where there are gaps in services and where the funds will do the most good.

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“In this difficult economic climate, local charities are faced with increased challenges as they seek to enrich and invest in the lives of Alexandria’s underserved populations,” said United Way NCA Alexandria Regional Council Chair, Florence M. King. “By focusing on the key areas of education, financial stability and health, United Way NCA is making a noticeable impact on the social well-being of our communities through the Community Impact program. I applaud the hard work of our selection committee volunteers who reviewed proposals from more than 100 worthy applicants.”

All donors to United Way NCA have the option of directing their workplace giving pledge to the Community Impact Fund for any of United Way NCA’s eight regions: Alexandria, Arlington, District of Columbia, Fairfax/Falls Church, Loudoun, Montgomery, Prince George’s and Prince William counties. These funds help United Way NCA solve critical challenges facing these communities that no one person, nonprofit, or company can address alone. Across the National Capital Area this year, United Way NCA is awarding a total of 77 Community Impact grants to 65 nonprofit member organizations.

“United Way NCA’s Community Impact grant process helps us rally and focus the nonprofit community around shared goals and outcomes by combining the power of local giving, local knowledge and collective action to create maximum impact as we address the most pressing needs in each of our eight regions,” said Rosie Allen-Herring, President and CEO, United Way NCA. “Today we honor the generosity of Alexandria employees and employers, the time and care taken by the volunteer selection committee and the Alexandria Regional Council, and the vital work of the grantee organizations.”

#### **About United Way of the National Capital Area**

Focusing on the critical areas of education, financial stability and health, United Way of the National Capital Area and its nonprofit members not only provide immediate relief of social problems affecting the community, but also work to alleviate the underlying causes of these issues. Serving the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, and Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties for nearly 40 years, United Way of the National Capital Area works to inspire acts of caring, deliver hope and improve lives. In total, United Way of the National Capital Area raises approximately \$30 million each year to address the needs of the community. For more information about United Way of the National Capital Area, visit [UnitedWayNCA.org](http://UnitedWayNCA.org).

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