

AFAC FACT SHEET

AFAC is Arlington's food pantry. At AFAC, we provide supplemental groceries to Arlingtonians who cannot afford to purchase all the food they need. You might not think that hunger is a problem in Arlington, but our high cost of living coupled with current economic conditions, mean that many families struggle to make ends meet on a daily basis. Supplemental groceries from AFAC allow families to remain in their homes, workers to stay on the job, children to have the nutrition necessary to be ready to learn, and mothers and babies to receive the nutrition that they need.

- Each week over 1,200 families now rely on AFAC for supplemental groceries. AFAC families live all over Arlington; 26% live in North Arlington.
- Our clients are generally the working poor. Others have physical or mental disabilities; some are between jobs, have been ill or are new to our country. Some are the elderly on fixed incomes.
- All families are required to have a referral to be eligible for AFAC. Referrals can come from an Arlington County government agency or one of the many local churches, schools or social service agencies.
- In our last fiscal year (FY10) we distributed over 2,3 million pounds of food directly to Arlington families. Of those, 65% were donated to us. We receive donations from individuals, church and business food drives and grocery stores. To ensure that we provide nutritionally balanced food, AFAC purchases a portion of its food needs at a discounted cost. We also distributed another 30,000 pounds of food to other feeding programs.
- Our offerings generally include meat, milk, eggs, bread, baked goods, canned goods and some fresh produce. Each family also chooses from our "extra choice" shelves, so that they can take home food that they know their families will enjoy.
- The AFAC cash budget for FY11 is \$1,7 million. Our overhead (7.8% in FY10) is one of the very lowest among Arlington social service agencies.
- Last year, volunteers provided over 25,748 hours of help to us. Volunteers help in many ways – they govern AFAC through the board of directors, distribute food to our clients, and work with our office and warehouse staff, helping with our daily operations.

Hunger Information for Arlington:

- Nearly 8% of Arlington families live below the poverty line. This percentage has been increasing.
- Over one third of children in Arlington schools qualify for the free lunch program. In some schools the rate is over 75%.

***AFAC provides the opportunity for all Arlingtonians
to address the issue of hunger in our community.***

We invite you to join in this effort.

Come help run one of Arlington's most needed and dynamic social service agencies.

For more information, visit us on the web at www.afac.org.

Arlington Food Assistance Center
2708 S. Nelson Street, Arlington, VA 22206, (703) 845-8486