



— Thank you for your gift to the Arlington Food Assistance Center! —

# Annual Report and Honor Roll of Donors

Fiscal Year 2009

July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009



Arlington Food Assistance Center  
2708 S. Nelson Street, Arlington, VA 22206  
703.845.8486 • [www.afac.org](http://www.afac.org)

## Letter from the Chairman

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It gives me great pleasure to write this letter of thanks to everyone in the Arlington community who has helped AFAC in the past year. Your generous gifts of food, money and volunteer time have made it possible for us to have enough food in our pantry, even as the number of our clients has risen to record levels. **Thank you** for making it possible for us to keep feeding our neighbors in need.

As you probably know, the number of families turning to us for help grew markedly in FY09. In the last quarter of FY 2009 (April, May and June 2009), we served a record average of 1,139 families per week, compared to just 874 in the first quarter of the year. I'm happy to report that 1) we served every family who was referred to us; 2) we distributed over \$2.5 million worth of groceries directly to Arlington families in need; and 3) despite the increase in the number of families, we have been able to maintain the amount of each family's weekly groceries from AFAC at an average of 40 pounds.

How did we manage to do all this? We have so many people to thank!

Just over 65% of our food this year was donated to us, amounting to over 1,481,000 pounds from 5,464 separate donations. That's up from 3,927 donations last year. Many groups did food drives for us. Our thanks go to the hundreds of people involved in those drives, both organizers and donors.

Not surprisingly, our total budget for the year was the largest ever. Our total cash outlay was over \$1.2 million, compared to just over \$800,000 in FY2008. Fortunately, the sheer number of money donors, like food donors, took a great leap, from 2,885 last year to just over 4,000 this year.

That \$2.5 million worth of groceries equals over 2 million pounds of food. And how did we handle all that food? We did it with the generous help of the over 400 volunteers who gave over 24,000 hours of their time. As you know, the routine work of AFAC is performed in the warehouse, on the dock, in the "shopping area," bagging, driving and working in the office. Other volunteers are involved in work parties, food drives, or serve on our board or board committees. I would be happy to schedule a visit to show you how we operate or to get you started if you'd like to volunteer.

In 1988, we were the creation of six Arlington churches, and we served only a few dozen families each week. How much we have grown in the years since we started. We are proud to be here to fill this crucial niche in Arlington social services. Our food helps to provide comfort and security. We make possible the pleasures of cooking and eating together for families who are not only hungry, but often stressed and sometimes overwhelmed. The next time you sit to eat with your own family and friends, please remember that your gift made a real difference to many other families in Arlington.

With great thanks for your contribution to AFAC,



Sue Covucci  
*AFAC Board Chair*

## Increase in Number of Families Turning to AFAC

The number of families coming to AFAC each week set records a number of times in the last year. We served 1,000 families in one week for the first time ever the last week in October 2008. Very shortly after that, the second week in November, 2008, we served 1,108 families, going over the 1,100 mark for the first time. Then in the first week in February 2009, we served 1,208, going over the 1,200 mark for the first time.

Each increase in client load had implications for our operations. We needed to purchase more milk, eggs, and meat in order to meet the new level of demand. While we had expected some increase in the number of families, and had planned for an increase over the fiscal year, we did not expect increases to come so quickly or so often. Fortunately we were able to secure enough funds to cover the purchases.

We also needed more help both to process the more food needed through our warehouse and to help with distribution itself. As usual, AFAC volunteers both stepped up their efforts (often staying an extra half hour or 45 minutes every day) and streamlined the distribution process so more families could be served in nearly the same amount of time.

As to why there was an increase in need, one need only look to the state of the general economy and the downturn in the real estate market. Both forces meant that more families contained a member either not working or working fewer hours.

The number of families turning to us for help never dipped below 1,000 again in the year. For the last quarter of the year, we served an average of 1,139 families each week. That figure is up 30% from the number served in the first quarter of the year.

Thanks to each donor and volunteer who made this effort possible.

## AFAC Board of Directors

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Magda Jaskot, *Food Drive Coordinator*

### Cover Art

*Our cover art was created by children ages 3-4 years old from Westover Baptist Preschool as part of their "Caring for My Community" project, Fall 2008.*

## Increase in Food Donors Helped Us Maintain Food Levels

The number of food donors and the number of food donations to AFAC both increased in FY09. The number of food donors nearly doubled from FY08's count of 509 to FY09's count of 909. The number of food donations increased 39%, rising to 5,464 from 3,927 in FY08.

Some of the food drive participants were 'renewals', folks who had done a drive for us in the past. Others were making the effort for the first time. Arlington County Courthouse employees were among those who were participating for the second time in a holiday food drive. Through the efforts of team captains all over the Courthouse, even more food was collected the second year. The first year the drive garnered 5,242 pounds of food. This year, they collected 7,690. A friendly rivalry between departments, and even between shifts in a department, helped spur on the drives to the great success they had this year.

Westover Baptist PreSchool was a group that did a food drive for us for the first time this year. Not only that, the young students there created some unique art around the theme of food. You see some of their creations on the front cover of this report. And they sold t-shirts with their artwork on them and donated the funds to AFAC.

We try to make it is easy to do a food drive for AFAC, and more people took advantage of the help we can give them. This year for the holiday season, we had a downloadable food drive flyer that could be customized to suit the location and dates of the drive. We distributed large bins to organizations wanting to do a drive. These helped organizations have a place to store food during the drive as well as providing a visible central location for drives. While many organizations also brought the food down to us, we used a core group of volunteers to pick up food from food drives.

Food drives provide us free food, which helps keep our cost low, but they also provide us a variety of foods which in turn provides a variety of choices for the families we serve. When families can select the food they want to take home from us, we know it is more likely that the food will be eaten and enjoyed.

If you would like to do a food drive for AFAC, please see our website, [www.afac.org](http://www.afac.org).

## New Van Donated to AFAC by Poor Roberts Charities



The fleet of vans maintained by AFAC provides the basis for our food collection program. That program got a really big boost this year with the donation of another (our third!) van this year. The donation from Poor Roberts came in November.

The food collection program is a six day a week operation at AFAC. Staff and volunteers use our vans to pick up donations from 20 supermarkets in Arlington and surrounding area. Additionally the vans are used to pick up donations from food drives and gleaning, and to take food to our off-site distribution locations.

The third van added significantly to our capability, and that is shown in the increase in pounds of food donated from grocery stores and other food suppliers. This year we brought in over 1.1 million pounds of food, compared with just over 540,000 pounds last year.

Our drivers, Bernard Rogers and Wayne Massey, and Logistics Manager, Mike Hazel, make good use of that van. A very big thank you to Poor Roberts for this needed and well used donation.

## The Plot Against Hunger Thickens!

The AFAC PLOT AGAINST HUNGER (Plant a Row for the Hungry) project continued to yield thousands of pounds of fresh produce for AFAC's clients through gardens, farm market donations, and gleaning opportunities. We maintained our outreach to community gardeners, churches and organizations and expanded our outreach in local schools. We added teams to receive, weigh, bag and refrigerate the produce brought in by the farm market pick-up teams and launched a web site with information on community efforts and volunteer opportunities in the plot against hunger.

Our efforts began in the winter when individual gardeners, community gardeners and schools started seeds. Those seedling donations came to AFAC for distribution to clients and to local plots against hunger. Donated vegetable seeds from national seed companies were also distributed to clients during the spring and given to individuals and groups who had promised to plant an extra row for AFAC.

Four more churches and seven new schools started gardens for AFAC or rededicated existing gardens to our use. George Laumann, a teacher at Campbell Elementary School, told us his school had always had gardens for their classrooms, but the focus on planting a row for the hungry gave students a reason beyond science to plant vegetables: sharing with the Arlington community. This summer, Plot Against Hunger Committee member Paul Adamczak began meeting with teachers involved in the Plant a Row program for AFAC. We hope to learn how we can support increased school participation by providing seeds, information and contacts with local gardeners, and web links to other resources.

Expanded gleaning also boosted our fresh produce poundage as Mary Beth Emerson at St. Mary's Episcopal Church served as a clearinghouse for regional gleaning arranging to make volunteers available to the Mid-Atlantic Gleaning Network (MAGNET). By serving as a resource, Mary Beth was able to introduce individuals and groups to the great impact that gleaning can have. "It was a wonderful learning opportunity," she said. "Most people don't have any idea that up to 50 percent of the food we grow is wasted" because it isn't harvested." In FY09, overall donations from MAGNET accounted for over 123,000 pounds of produce. AFAC continues to explore ways that volunteers can participate in gleaning activities at local farms and orchards and bring those fruits and vegetables back for AFAC clients.

Vendors at farmer's markets were extremely generous as AFAC continued its pick-ups from the Courthouse and Columbia Pike



*Dick Bauder at the Gleaning Potatoes at the USDA Agricultural Station, Beltsville, MD.*

farm markets. Our driving and produce teams were tremendously helpful this summer—picking up donations from the farm markets, delivering it to AFAC, weighing it, and preparing it for distribution by bagging and refrigerating thousands of pounds of fruits and vegetables on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. By processing the produce as it came in, we were able to minimize damage and wastage and make the most of the donations. Farmer's market donations alone accounted for over 41,000 pounds of produce in FY09.

To help us get the word out about the plot against hunger, Andrew Nuckols developed a website that can be found at [www.plotagainsthunger.org](http://www.plotagainsthunger.org). Photos of area plots and their produce, gleaning and other volunteer opportunities, gardening information, and links to other sites are posted throughout the year. This site is updated regularly, so please visit it to see if there's an opportunity that appeals to you.

## AFAC Volunteers Recognized at Annual Picnic

At AFAC's Annual Volunteer Picnic, Tom and Nancy Gallagher were given the Volunteers of the Year Award for their continuing help in different areas of AFAC's operations. Nancy and Tom are supervisors at the 1st Thursday evening distribution each month and have throughout the years made special bulk purchases of food for AFAC clients to supplement the regular menu we offer. Most importantly for our clients, Nancy heads a team that enters all the client data from social service agencies; she keeps a detailed account of their status in order to remind social workers of their referral status.

Distinguished Services Awards were presented to Phil Traina & Don and Sharon Hall. Phil, Don, and Sharon are AFAC's "oldest volunteers." They have volunteered at AFAC for over 20 years, since the early years when food was donated by area churches and brought to Little Falls Presbyterian Church. Phil Traina has supervised the 3rd Monday bagging and EFK packing evenings for over 15 years and the Halls have been the coordinators for the Rock Spring Church bagging shifts. Phil will be retiring from his regular shift at the end of 2009 and the Halls have recently relocated to Ashburn, Virginia.

The Community Partner of the Year award was presented to Angie Bonds of Giant Foods Corporation. Angie has been instrumental in helping our Logistics Coordinator, Mike Hazel, arrange for deliveries of cans to the annual Canstruction events, and has been an immense help in facilitating orders on a wholesale level.

Willie Dodson was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his work as a mentor to those who work as drivers and in the warehouse, as well as his tireless work as a volunteer.

North Site Distribution Team at Clarendon was presented the Volunteer Group of the Year Award. This team, led by Don Hartline, distributes groceries at the Clarendon United Methodist Church on Saturday mornings. They provide an essential service to clients who live in North Arlington.

Robin, John and Warren Overholt were nominated as the Volunteer Family of the Year. The Overholts have volunteered at AFAC for over 15 years. They have participated in packing Emergency Food Kits, the regular bagging shifts for Rock Spring Church, all the large food drives for AFAC, as well as being members of the Chicken Bagging Team. Robin is also a member of the Tuesday morning distribution team.



*AFAC's 2nd Annual Volunteer Picnic 2009*

## First Annual 5K “Race for AFAC” A Big Success

Nearly 50 runners and walkers participated in the first annual ‘Race for AFAC’. The race was directed by two young women from Yorktown High School, Amy Snelling and Grace Ballou and was part of the young ladies’ studies in leadership. They worked under the direction of Andrea Brickhouse, the director of the leadership program at Yorktown.

The race was held at Bluemont Park on May 30th. Other students from Yorktown also volunteered the day of the event. The young ladies chose AFAC to be the beneficiary of the event because they wanted to choose a local organization that directly helps people in need. Amy had volunteered at AFAC, so she was familiar with us.

The young women got raffle prizes from Photo Scope, Eli’s Hair Salong, Cowboy Café and Peking Pavilion. Chesapeake Bagel Bakery and Heidelberg Bakery donated the food.

Also participating in the event was the Arlington Rotary Club (ARC). ARC has been a supporter of the AFAC for several years now, donating the equivalent of a case of cereal for each of their weekly speakers. When the students at Yorktown contacted ARC to request support, they were happy to be able to support students as well as AFAC. Rotary has worked with Yorktown on several other projects in the past, encouraging students to join them for the De-Canstruction project in April and sorting food during the Boy Scout Drive in November. For this event, ARC provided reusable water bottles to all participants and volunteers that helped at the registration desk, with keeping score, hanging signs, and one member even ran the race!

These young ladies are excellent examples of how young people can help their own community.



*Pictured with food from the Ashlawn Elementary School Food Drive are parents Kim Karush and Alison Landsberg.*

## Food Drives Support AFAC

Food drives are an important way to support AFAC because they provide us with high quality, free food. Over 5,000 food donations helped AFAC in FY09, and hundreds of groups did food drives for us.



*Pictured from the Arlington Chamber of Commerce Food Drive are Kim Durand (left) and Greta Menard (right), giving food to Christine Lucas (center), AFAC Executive Director.*



*Pictured here is AFAC volunteer Warren Overholt at the Letter Carriers Food Drive.*

## The Big Three: Big Successes

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### Canstruction/Letter Carriers Food Drive/Boy Scout Food Drive

The big three food drives that support AFAC were all successful again this year. First up was the Boy Scout Food Drive in November. That drive yielded 49,336 pounds, up from 38,617 pounds the year before. Thanks to all the Scouts who participated. The AFAC volunteers who sorted the Scouts donations gave 477 hours of help.

Canstruction in April is the competition sponsored by the Northern Virginia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. This year, the competition involved eight local firms who turned thousands of cans into thought-provoking, amusing structures. After the competition, the cans are donated to AFAC, and volunteers gave 125 hours of time sorting those cans.

Finally, the Letter Carriers Food Drive in May yielded 20,894 pounds of food. That figure is up 40% from the 14,925 pounds gathered in the 2008 Drive. Volunteers logged 149 hours sorting the food collected. Other volunteers helped swell the number of pounds collected by leafleting in various neighborhoods and apartment complexes around the County.

## Food Donors

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Hundreds of individuals, churches, businesses, schools, Scout Troops and other organizations donated food to us in FY09. Many of these donations came through special food drives. Listed here are donors of 1,000 pounds or more. Food donations help us keep our budget and overhead low. Please consider doing a food drive for AFAC. See our website, [www.afac.org](http://www.afac.org), for more information.

<b>Food Donors</b>	<b>Pounds</b>	<b>Food Donors</b>	<b>Pounds</b>
Magnet	123,562	First Presbyterian Church	1,712
Arlington Farmers' Market	21,565	Arlington Tradional School	1,702
Columbia Pike Farmer's Market	21,054	Spirit of Washington	1,650
St. Ann Catholic Church	8,558	Curves	1,579
Food and Friends	5,706	Robin Farley	1,528
Our Lady Queen of Peace Church	5,607	Westhampton Neighborhood	1,503
Society of St. Andrew	5,000	St. Peter's Episcopal Church	1,496
Arlington Courthouse Employees	3,700	Washington-Lee High School	1,463
Drew Sanders' Eagle Scout Project	3,686	HB Woodlawn	1,432
Arlington Host Lions Charities, Inc.	3,060	Obama Campaign	1,432
FDIC Division of Finance	3,015	Congressional School	1,430
Arlington County Sheriff's Office	2,816	Tuckahoe Elementary School	1,408
Courthouse Farmer's Market	2,757	Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources	1,353
Rock Spring Congregational UCC	2,745	Island Creek Elementary School	1,337
National Science Foundation Employee Assoc.	2,630	Yorktown High School	1,272
St. Mary's Episcopal Church	2,629	Grace Community Church	1,227
Washington Lee Marching Band	2,624	Little Falls Presbyterian Church	1,215
Archstone Properties	2,602	The Boeing Corporation	1,200
Ashlawn Elementary School	2,479	Ballston Place Apartments	1,164
Northwest Arlington Lions Club	2,300	Swanson Mddle School	1,140
American Chemistry Council	2,266	Shred for Bread	1,127
Arlington County	2,259	Memorial Baptist Church	1,120
Faith Lutheran Church	2,229	Gallery @ Virginia Square	1,102
Thomas Jefferson Middle School	2,175	U.S. Navy Annex	1,087
Trinity Presbyterian Church	2,060	Waterpark Tower	1,028
Oakridge Elementary School	2,038	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	1,022
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church	1,966	Holy Trinity School	1,021
Food for Others, Inc.	1,761		

## Donor List

### GIFTS OF \$150,000 OR MORE

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United Way of the  
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### GIFTS OF \$25,000 OR MORE

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### GIFTS OF \$20,000 OR MORE

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Andrew Chudy			
Amy B. Connelly			
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## Donor List

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Carol Neeley	Susan G. Sharpe	Randolph & Sarah Young	Little & Associates
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Michelle Shanahan &	James Woolford	Knights of Columbus	
Daniel Salsburg	Julia L. Wright	EDW Council	

## Statement of Activities, July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009

REVENUE & SUPPORT	Total	Unrestricted	Use restricted
Cash donations			
for Food Operations	\$ 1,493,189	\$ 1,489,189	\$ 4,000
for Permanent Home Campaign	223,929	15,550	208,379
Food donations	2,207,593	2,207,593	
Gifts in-kind	23,893	23,893	
Rental income	34,431		34,431
Other income	30	30	
Interest, dividends, realized gains (losses)	5,391	4,953	438
TOTAL REVENUE & SUPPORT	\$ 3,988,456	\$ 3,741,208	\$ 247,249
EXPENSES			
PROGRAM SERVICES			
Food distribution	3,289,681		
Total program services	\$ 3,289,681	93%	
SUPPORTING SERVICES			
Management & general	87,273	2%	
Fundraising	166,603	5%	
Total supporting services	\$ 253,876		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,548,539	100%	
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 439,918		
from Annual Fund & Food Operations	277,698		
from Permanent Home Campaign	167,873		
from Building Operations	(5,654)		

## Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS		2009	2008
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash & cash equivalents	\$	802,642	\$ 381,017
Receivables		3,248	1,291
Prepaid expenses		3,352	-
		809,242	382,308
Total current assets		809,242	382,308
Investments		13,200	16,939
Property - land & building		896,504	913,675
Equipment		35,610	12,732
		1,754,556	1,325,654
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	1,754,556	\$ 1,325,654
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		2009	2008
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	\$	69,241	\$ 33,031
Accrued wages & leave		17,254	8,050
Other current liabilities		2,092	-
Mortgage payable		678,425	736,946
		767,011	778,026
Total liabilities		767,011	778,026
NET ASSETS			
Unrestricted		695,009	417,311
Temporarily (Use) restricted		292,536	130,316
		987,545	547,627
Total net assets		987,545	547,627
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$	1,754,556	\$ 1,325,654

## Permanent Home Campaign

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The Permanent Home Campaign, thanks to many long-time and new AFAC friends, made a strong stride forward in FY '09. As of June 30, 2009, the Campaign total of gifts and pledges just over \$409, 000.



Kicking off the support and fun this past year was Keller William's "Pay It Forward, Pay It Down" fundraising event in November for the Permanent Home Campaign. The event raised \$25,000 for the PHC. K-W is generously hosting a repeat of the cocktail reception on November 12, 2009.

The June 2009 fund-raiser at the Washington Golf and County Club for the Permanent Home Campaign netted over \$55,000 for the PHC. A number of anonymous donors have supported the Permanent Home Campaign at the leadership level of \$10,000+. In FY'09 the Permanent Home Campaign also was the grateful beneficiary of leadership gifts from St. Mary's Episcopal Church, the Broccoli Foundation, and the Washington Forrest Foundation. AFAC seeks additional friends to commit to the Permanent Home Campaign (PHC) to reach its \$1 million goal.

Paying off the mortgage on AFAC's home in Arlington will mean the ability to keep apace with the still increasing client numbers, and providing food that is the most nutritious possible. Progress requires partners! For more information about how your gift can help, please contact Beth Johnson at 703.845.8486.

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Arlington Food Assistance Center  
2708 S. Nelson Street  
Arlington, VA 22206

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Feeding Our Neighbors in Need

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