

Arlington Food Assistance Center

"Feeding Our Neighbors In Need"



DONATION REPORT: JULY 1, 2008 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2009

1ST ANNUAL YOUNG SUPPORTER REPORT

Kids Helping Kids

A report on how youngsters in Arlington have helped youngsters from families in need.

October, 2009

It is with great pleasure that we print this report, our first annual Young Supporters Report. Since so many of you young people in Arlington support our work here at the Arlington Food Assistance Center, we felt it only right that we highlight your work for us. You have helped us in so many ways, by holding food drives, volunteering in our warehouse, raising money for us and more .

You'll read in this report about some young supporters and their work that I hope is inspiring to you and to the adults in our community as well. I give great thanks for you, all the young people who support AFAC. This report is our first effort to collect information on your efforts for us. I am sure this report is not complete. If you know of other youngsters or groups of youngsters that have helped us, please let me know.

Thank you for all you have done for AFAC.

Christine Lucas

AFAC Executive Director

FIRST ANNUAL 5K 'RACE FOR AFAC' A BIG SUCCESS

Nearly 50 runners and walkers participated in the first annual 'Race for AFAC'. Two young women from Yorktown High School -- Amy Snelling and Grace Ballou -- directed the race, which 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 30.

"Grace and I chose AFAC as the beneficiary of the event because we wanted to choose a local organization that directly helps people in need," says Amy. "It was especially important to us to help others during this hard economic time. Personally, I have known about AFAC for some time now, since my mom and I and my siblings volunteered there when we were younger. I re-established my connection with AFAC in high school, and I was amazed at how much impact AFAC has on the Arlington community. I really wanted to help AFAC, which has helped so many people."

The young women got raffle prizes and food sponsors for the event. "I would like to thank Photo Scope, Eli's Hair Salon, Cowboy Cafe and Peking Pavilion for donating raffle prizes for the event," says Grace. And thanks to Chesapeake Bagel Bakery and Heidelberg Bakery for donating food. We really appreciated your help!"

The young ladies also had a special thanks to Brickhouse for her support during the weeks they spent planning the event. Other Yorktown students also volunteered the day of the event.

Also participating in the event was the Arlington Rotary Club (ARC), which 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, the club was happy to be able to support them as well as AFAC. Rotary has worked with Yorktown on several other AFAC projects in the past, encouraging students to join them for the De-Construction 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, kept score and hung signs. One Rotary member even ran the race!

Kim Durand, ARC President, says, "We were thrilled to be a part of this inaugural event to support two of our partners at the same time. We look forward to participating in the future."

Christine Lucas, AFAC Executive Director and a long-time runner, observed, "I've been in lots of races over the years, and this event was done as well as many larger events. I hope these young ladies will continue their efforts for AFAC next year. They are excellent examples of how young people can help their community."

TEEN'S INITIATIVE PROVIDES GROCERY BAGS FOR CLIENTS

Ilana Shapiro is in seventh grade at Kenmore Middle School in Arlington. Her Bat Mitzvah is in June, and as part of the preparation for that event, she was required to do a community service project. In her own words, this is what she did for AFAC.

In early winter, I was trying to decide on a service project that I could do that would be meaningful to me. A friend of my family's, Puwen Lee, is the volunteer organizer for AFAC, and she told me that AFAC wanted to switch to reusable bags to hand out their food in. I decided that this was an excellent subject for my service project because hunger is a big issue, even here in Arlington, and saving AFAC some money seemed very worthwhile. I began working to collect bags, setting my goal for 500, because I was having slow progress.

By February, I only had around 200 bags, my biggest donation being from someone who had heard about my project through Freecycle, who had 150 bags left over from an event. But in March, donations started to pick up. I was becoming better at the job of asking for donations at grocery stores, and I had just gotten a donation of 250 bags from Whole Foods, which I think boosted my spirits and helped me rev up my donation requesting. I filled out dozens of online applications, collected at my former elementary school, posted routine bag requests on Freecycle, Craigslist, and my Temple and by the end of March, I had reached 1,000 bags, my adjusted goal.

I learned a lot collecting for AFAC. I learned that really any-

one can hit bad times and go hungry, and I learned that if you are, it certainly doesn't mean you're lazy. I also got the chance to interact with the very people I was helping when I volunteered to help in the registration process.

It touched me to know that total strangers who had heard about my project helped me so much. I want to thank all the businesses I got donations from: Safeway, Harris Teeter, Pacers, Trader Joe's, Giant, Dick's Sporting Goods, Whole Foods, and Altarm Institute. I'd also like to thank all the people who helped me: John O'Donnell, students, parents, and faculty at Ashlawn Elementary, Peggy Carrington, and Judy Lipman and members of Bethel United Church of Christ. All of your donations were greatly appreciated.

I really hope my bags are put to good use, and thank you for this wonderful educational opportunity.

HOW YOU CAN HELP AFAC: -Conduct a food drive at school, church or through another organization; - Hold a bake sale and donate the proceeds to AFAC; -Participate in our 2nd Monday of the month, Family Bagging Night; or -Ask for food instead of birthday or holiday presents.

PRESCHOOLERS AID AFAC

Children in the six three- and four-year-old classes in the Westover Baptist Preschool found no less than three ways to help AFAC late last year. They:

- created the artwork that's been used at AFAC holiday card;
- made T-shirts with the slogan "Helping the Hungry in Our Community" and sold them for \$15 each and,
- held a food drive, the school's first, for AFAC.

Organized by Karen McAndrews and Deanne Brock, mothers of children in the classes, the three related projects were part of the "Caring for My Community" effort at the school. One goal was to "plant a seed" in the children about the fact that many in Arlington don't have enough to eat and to explain to them what they can do at their level to help.

In addition to giving AFAC an original and distinctive holiday card to send to volunteers, donors and other supporters of AFAC, the children's efforts raised \$540 from T-shirt sales and collected 520 pounds of food. We thank the children, parents and staff at Westover Baptist Preschool.

CASH DONATIONS

Boy Scout Troop #149
Brownies Troop #1400
Claremont Elementary School
Cub Scout Pack #167
Girl Scout Troop #3737
Girl Scout Troop #6420
Girl Scout Troop #6423
Girl Scout Troop #6419
Girl Scout Troop #6680
Gunston Middle School
H-B Woodlawn
Jewish Youth Philanthropy Institute
Key Elementary School
Stratford Program
Swanson Middle School
Westover Baptist Preschool
Yorktown High School



Ilana Shapiro with a few of the 1,000 reusable grocery bags she collected.

VOLUNTEER GROUPS

Cub Scouts Den 10
Den 2/Pack 126 Cub Scouts
Flint Hill School
Long Branch Elementary
Yorktown National Honor Society
Nottingham Elementary
Potomac School
St. Stephens & St. Agnes
St. Thomas More
Troop 2921
Troop 3737
Tuckahoe
Yorktown H.S. Gives Back

FOOD DRIVES

Abingdon Elementary School	Girl Scout Troop #3932	Our Savior Lutheran School
American University - School of Communications	Girl Scout Troop #5014	Patrick Henry Elementary School
Arlington Public Schools	Girl Scout Troop #5220	Potomac Crescent Waldorf School
Arlington Science Focus School	Girl Scout Troop #5311	Randolph Elementary School
Arlington Traditional School	Girl Scout Troop #5444	Rivendell School
Arlington Unitarian Cooperative Preschool	Girl Scout Troop #557	Rock Spring Congregational Youth Group
Ashlawn Elementary School	Girl Scout Troop #57	St. Agnes School
Barrett Elementary School	Girl Scout Troop #5837	St. Clement Episcopal School
Bishop O'Connell High School	Girl Scout Troop #5841	St. Joseph's Preschool
Boy Scout Troop #149	Girl Scout Troop #6252	St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School
Boy Scout Troop #681	Girl Scout Troop #6418	St. Thomas More School
Brownie Troop #1014	Girl Scout Troop #6420	Swanson Middle School
Brownie Troop #1400	Girl Scout Troop #6423	Taylor Elementary School
Brownie Troop #4247	Girl Scout Troop #6583	Teen Parenting Program
Brownie Troop #438	Girl Scout Troop #6672	Thomas Jefferson Elementary School
Brownie Troop #4440	Girl Scout Troop #6680	Thomas Jefferson Middle School
Brownie Troop #6904	Glebe Elementary School	Trinity School at Meadow View
Brownie Troop #970	Gunston Middle School	Tuckahoe Elementary School
Campbell Elementary School	HB Woodlawn	VA 821st AF JROTC
Children's House Montessori School	Holy Trinity School	Wakefield High School
Claremont Elementary School	Island Creek Elementary School	Washington Lee High School
Congressional School	Jamestown Elementary School	Washington Lee High School Key Club
Cub Scout Pack #657	Kappa Phi Lambda	Washington Lee Marching Band
Cub Scout Troop #5839	Kenmore Middle School	Waynewood Elementary School
Cub Scout Troop #641	Key Elementary School	Wesley Seminary
Drew Model School	LADO International College	Westover Preschool Parents Group
George Mason University	Little Beginnings Child Development Center	Williamsburg Middle School
Georgetown University	Long Branch Elementary School	Year Up Metro DC
Girl Scout Troop #1431	Marymount Student Athlete Advisory Committee	Yorktown High School
Girl Scout Troop #2448	McKinley Elementary School	
Girl Scout Troop #3230	Nottingham Elementary School	
	Oakridge Elementary School	

GRAND TOTAL: 41,821 POUNDS

