

SPECIAL POINTS OF IN- TEREST:

- **Dine-Out Night**
Chili's Restaurant
Tuesday, May 4
- **Spring Food Drive**
NALC Sponsored
Saturday, May 8
- **Be a part of**
Koinonia's future!
Your tax-deductible
donation will see that
we have sufficient
space to meet the
needs of our ever-
changing community.



www.koinoniacares.org



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A Thousand Words	2
Every Donation Counts	2
In Concert	3
Kamp Koinonia	3
Grant Awarded	3
Koinonia at Work	3
Food Drive	4
Current Needs	4

A Letter From the Chairman

Dear Friend,

All of us know about the difficult economic conditions plaguing our nation and community for quite a long time. Every day, we hear stories of people in need, those trying to make ends meet, and those who cannot and are losing hope.

Perhaps you know someone who has felt the effects of the recession. Many of our neighbors lost their jobs and have not yet been able to find full-time work. Some wonder if they can put food on the table, clothe their children, or keep up with their bills. Prices are rising as paychecks continue to shrink.

Our rate of emergency financial assistance is 150% greater than it was before the economic downturn

Even here in affluent Fairfax County, some of our neighbors are in desperate need of help. The stories are heartbreaking. Our staff serves folks who move from house to house, sleeping on a friend's or family members' floor. Some of them are unemployed and they get up everyday to look for a paying job. Meanwhile, they worry if they will be able to feed their children when the money runs out. Though often hidden from sight, poverty in our community and neighborhoods is real. That's why it is a problem that we simply cannot ignore!

Koinonia is the only agency in our corner of Fairfax County providing emergency relief services. We offer food, clothing, and financial assistance for rent, utilities, and prescription drugs. We are deeply grateful TO YOU for standing with us to assist our neighbors!

May we ask for your help again?

Our rate of emergency financial assistance is 150% greater than it was before the economic downturn. For the past couple of years, we have given away about 7,000 pounds of food each month, significantly more than previous years. As people struggle in this economy and the demand for Koinonia's services steadily increases, we expect these trends to continue.

Yet, even in these tough times, Koinonia has not declined a single request for assistance!

Total clients seen 1st quarter 2009: 338
Total clients seen 1st quarter 2010: 447

We believe that we are strategically placed in the greater Kingstowne and Franconia community as a compassionate friend and reliable servant to those in need. We are committed to being FAITHFUL to our mission and DOING everything we can, with God's help, to assist and care for our neighbors.

Would you prayerfully consider giving an additional amount to the work of Koinonia? A gift of any amount is significant. The Bible tells us that, "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Thank you for your generous support. As our partners in caring for those in need, you make the work of Koinonia possible.

With gratitude,
Rev. Robert L. Barnett
Chairman of the Board of Directors
The Koinonia Foundation, Inc.

To learn more about how far your donation to Koinonia goes, see Page 2.

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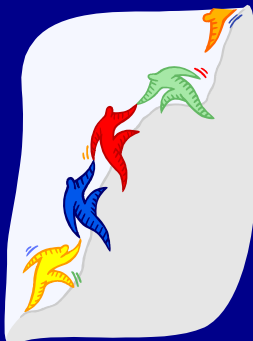
Audrey June

Staff

Amy C. Lopez,
 Executive Director
 Jeannette Jere-Jones,
 Social Worker
 Frances Robles,
 Administrative Assistant

Hours of Operation

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
 and Friday
 9:00 am—Noon
 Thursday
 10:00 am—6:00 pm
 1st and 3rd Wednesday
 6:00 pm—8:30pm



A Smile That Speaks A Thousand Words

Deqa understands what it means to be a part of a loving and supportive community.

In 2006, Deqa and her family were handed a set of keys to their very own home built by Habitat for Humanity Volunteers in the community. Deqa was thrilled to have a home for her children and a place for the family to grow.

However, several years later Deqa found herself struggling to keep her life together. Deqa and her spouse separated and she was left to provide for her 4 young children and elderly father on her own. Deqa came to Koinonia looking for food, clothing, and financial assistance. Her bright smile seemed to enter the room before she did, and she continually expressed her gratefulness to the staff, the community, and volunteers.

Deqa works through the night while her Dad watches the children; she is home for them during the day. In addition to caring for her children ranging from 1 1/2 to 6 years old, she drives one child to therapy appointments and

exercise classes as he was born with Down syndrome and requires additional care.

Deqa's plate is full, but she always manages to find her smile.

Koinonia's volunteers and staff are continually inspired by the individuals and families who enter through our doors. Our clients are courageous in the face of uncertainty. It is our pleasure to care for each individual and family and to offer encouraging words and support.



Make a Difference, Every Donation Counts

In today's economy it is important to be mindful of those who are struggling with their finances and offer a helping hand whenever possible.

Koinonia is always looking for volunteers to join our team. We have shifts available most days, and Wednesday nights, too.

Be sure to remember us when you head to the grocery store

this week and grab an extra item for our food pantry.

It is because of YOU that we are able to serve the community

Lastly, your financial contribution can make a lasting impact. \$50 or \$100 will help offset cost of our social worker providing effective case manage-

ment, assistance and encouragement to our clients.

\$200 will pay an overdue utility bill.

\$500 will help stock our pantry with non-perishable foods and personal hygiene items, for one month.

\$1,800 will stock our pantry with perishable foods, such as meat and eggs, for six months.

Concert Tickets Benefit Koinonia

On June 19, the Life and Faith Tour: The Ultimate Family Experience will pull into Richmond, VA for a one-day entertainment extravaganza.

Mercy Me, Amy Grant, The David Crowder Band, Natalie Grant and many more will lead the audience in a wonderful day of worship. Plus the Kid's Corner will have a special appearance by the Veggie Tales, along with fun activities.

Gates open at 10am.

But wait, there's more!!!

When you purchase an adult ticket on www.lifeandfaithtour.com Koinonia will receive \$10 of the purchase price. That's right! Purchase your tickets today for this "ultimate family experience", indicate Koinonia as your

charity of choice, and we will receive \$10 for each adult ticket purchased. You get to participate in a wonderful day of fun and worship. No strings attached!

For information on the concert event series, visit www.lifeandfaithtour.com or you may follow a link from our website www.koinoniacares.org.



Summer Camp

Last Summer Koinonia partnered with Summer Rec-PAC operated by Fairfax County Park Authority, to provide summer camp for 18 children.

We are excited to announce that for just \$100 you can sponsor a child for the entire summer!

Summer can be difficult for parents who work full time, but want their children to be involved in structured activities. Summer Rec-PAC focuses on leisure skills and gives children the chance to participate in fun activities.

Please send your check today. Be sure to write "Kamp Koinonia" on the memo line.

Grant Awarded

We are pleased to announce that Koinonia was selected for a Community Investment Grant through Community Foundation for Northern Virginia. In the field of Poverty Relief, Koinonia was awarded \$7,500 in support of our Emergency Relief Services, which includes client assistance with rent and utilities.

Community Foundation for Northern Virginia's Director of Grants, Lesley MacDonald, stated in the award letter, "We were very impressed with your application and with the work you are doing to benefit the community."

Koinonia has been fully supported by the community for over 40 years! Koinonia's Executive Director, Amy Lopez states, "Because of our local community, we have been able to provide much needed help to our neighbors in need. The Community Investment Grant will further enable us to continue our Emergency Relief Services for people in our community who need it most."

For additional information, please contact Audrey June, Community Relations Volunteer, awjune@cox.net.

KOINONIA AT WORK—1ST QUARTER RESULTS

CLIENTS

January—March 2009: 338
January—March 2010: 447

POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED

January—March 2009: 17,420
January—March 2010: 21,330

TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GIVEN

January—March 2009: \$7,026
January—March 2010: \$7,300

NO. OF PEOPLE WHO RECEIVED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

January—March 2009: 34
January—March 2010: 32

Koinonia is serving more clients now than ever before! Koinonia's statistics are not simply numbers, but lives being changed. We have been helping individuals and families since 1966. One person at a time!

THE KOINONIA
FOUNDATION INC.

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Alexandria, VA 22310-8878

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703-971-1991

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703-971-0449

CFC # 19446
United Way #8283

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Giving hope and help with compassion and care since 1966

THIS SPELLS
HELP FOR LOTS OF
FAMILIES THIS
YEAR!



**LETTER CARRIERS'
FOOD DRIVE
SAT. MAY 8, '10**



PUT YOUR NON-PERISHABLE DONATION
IN A BAG BY YOUR MAILBOX.
WE'LL DELIVER IT TO A LOCAL FOOD BANK.



Current Needs

- Gently-used spring clothing, new underwear, socks, and intimate apparel
- Furniture and other small household items
- Pantry supplies are in **HIGH DEMAND**:

Sugar and Flour	Oil
Pancake Mix and Syrup	Diapers (Size 4, 5 & 6)
Baby Food	Laundry Detergent
Cleaning Supplies	Dish/Dishwashing Detergent
Condiments	Coffee
Peanut Butter and Jelly	Cereal
Personal Hygiene Products	

Buy a plant, support Koinonia

Stop by Nalls Produce on Beulah Road in Alexandria to pick up your terra cotta potted geranium. Nalls will donate 10% to Koinonia!

Nalls Produce * 7310 Beulah Street * Alexandria, VA 22315