

Employment Boutique Teaches Skills and Offers Insight

On Saturday, March 26, the Gum Spring Community Center was transformed into an “Employment Boutique” for residents from New Hope Housing’s shelters and transitional housing programs. Over 30 participants enjoyed a day of workshops and one-on-one assistance focused on preparing for employment.

The event was organized for women residing in New Hope Housing programs by **Andrea Grimaldi**, a participant in HUD’s Leadership Development program. Ms. Grimaldi recruited other professionals to assist and gathered donated clothing, jewelry and special gifts for workshop attendees.

Those attending received assistance with their resumes, searched and applied for jobs online, and received information about specific job openings. Speakers addressed topics such as interview preparation, and participants were given the opportunity to practice interviewing skills.

Sherry, a resident of the Alexandria Community Shelter who attended the Boutique, commented, “I appreciate the kindness and professionalism the volunteers showed me. I’m grateful for the opportunity and for the care, attention and concern to help make us feel good about ourselves.”

Professional clothing and jewelry were available without charge, and the ladies were treated to manicures and makeup applications. The women enjoyed a luncheon and the “goodie bags” distributed. Most importantly, they left with new information and skills to help in finding employment.



FromTop to Bottom:

Volunteers Tracey Reed and Erica Baylor helped the women in developing effective resumes for their job applications;

Event organizer Andrea Grimaldi;

Volunteer Lorraine Grimaldi shows donated professional clothing that was available for workshop participants.



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It's time to rethink homelessness.

Our Vision: A home and a bright future for every man, woman and child in our community.

Our Mission: New Hope Housing provides homeless families and individual shelter and the tools to build a better life.

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Thank You to Our Volunteers and In-Kind Donors!

The holidays are a distant memory, but our gratitude is here and now for the 100+ individuals, businesses, faith communities, service organizations, and school clubs who donated food, gifts, gift cards, and parties to our residents during the 2010 holiday season, THANK YOU!!!



Clemson University's Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Thanks to the groups who have volunteered at the shelters in recent months: **Fort Belvoir personnel** led resume workshops at Kennedy and ACS; **students from University of Vermont** spent spring break doing a variety of projects all over the agency; the **National Iranian American Council** spent a Saturday at the family shelter organizing storage spaces; college students from **Clemson's Fellowship of Christian Athletes** spent a day getting a transitional housing unit ready for a new family; ladies from **His Church International** hosted a baby shower for residents at Mondloch House, in addition to providing monthly birthday parties at the shelter; volunteers from **Dove Fellowship (Harvest Church)**, **Christ Church of Lorton Station, Segovia**, and **Freddie Mac** prepared meals at the Kennedy Shelter; the **Sunday Brunch Group** created an Italian restaurant at Mondloch House and served lunch in style; students from **Bishop Ireton High School** took time out of their school day to clean at the family shelter; **Girl Scout Troop 749** created a carnival for the children at Mondloch House and ACS; girls from **"I Am Beautiful"** led children's activities at Mondloch House; the **"Ladies with Focus"** held an Easter Egg Hunt at the family shelter; the **Engleside Evening Lions Club** held a baby shower to benefit New Hope Housing new moms; and **Genesis Church** hosted meals and Mother's Day festivities at Mondloch House. Thanks to **Temple Rodef**



thanks...



Clockwise from top right:

Girl Scout Troop #749;

Student volunteers from Clemson University enjoy their time while cleaning a transitional residence;

Students from Bishop Ireton High School helped clean and organize the children's play area.

Shalom and to Fairlington UMC for the meals provided for Max's Place.

The Alexandria Community Shelter is about to receive a makeover for several of its rooms, thanks to the efforts of volunteers from the Alexandria Economic Opportunity Commission, staff from Home Depot–Alexandria, and extensive materials being donated by Home Depot. A big thank you to Gum Springs Community Center for providing space free of charge for the Employment Boutique (see the feature story on page one!) And thanks to Andrea Grimaldi and all her volunteers. New Hope Housing's annual Black History Celebration was made extraordinary this year through the talents of Woodlawn UMC's "Youthful Praise," "God's MVPs," and the Foster Family and friends.

Several volunteers helped facilitate Out of Poverty classes at Mondloch, Kennedy, and ACS—this intensive 14-week course required an equally intensive commitment! Thanks to Meghan Roberts, Nicole Hoskins, Alan Dinerman, and Michelle Buhandt for their work with adult residents, and to

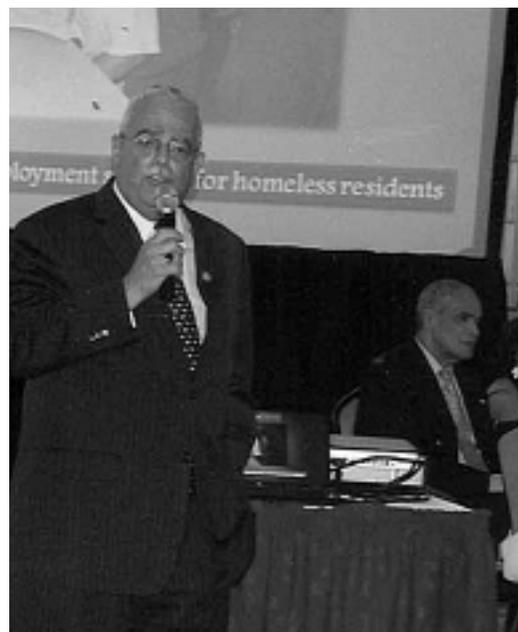
Madeliene Hawks, Michelle Jannazo, Chynna Swann, and Alteasha Ervin for providing children's activities at Mondloch and ACS during Out of Poverty. Thanks to The Reading Connection for their continued faithfulness in reading with our children on Monday evenings at Mondloch House! And George Mason U. students Dana Buckley, Veronica Harmon and Karina Scott are helping plan and coordinate the coming Volunteer Recognition event.

Thanks to our Gala Committee—co-chairs Susan Homar and Deidre Miller and Gwen King and Wendy Bostik; and to Board members Geoff Harkness and Steve Hartell for going the extra mile to make Gala de Mayo a success! Thanks to Ana Ilieva Foreman for her Gala de Mayo graphic design, and Karen Wrege, auctioneer extraordinaire! Charles Lepple, Jason Tonks and Thadd Selden provided Gala tech support; Mary Schoen again made auction baskets shine; and Areli Mendez and many staff volunteers made Gala operations run smoothly. Many thanks to all!

Special Events

2010 Gala de Mayo!

The 2011 Gala—Gala de Mayo!—was a great success thanks to New Hope Housing staff, volunteers and our gala sponsors. Very special thanks to Platinum Sponsors **Greg Garcia** and **Phil & Peg Soucy**, as well as our Gold Partners **Citiline Partners, LLC**, **Clayton & Sandy Davis**, **Freddie Mac**, **Modern Technology Solutions, Inc.** and **Science Applications International Corporation**. The Gala de Mayo committee was led by co-chairs **Susan Homar** and **Deidre Miller**, and the sponsorship campaign was led by Board members **Geoff Harkness** and **Steve Hartell**. Sponsors, auction donors and over 270 guests who attended—many arriving in colorful attire to the match the evening's theme—generously helped raise over \$140,000 to support New Hope Housing's programs and services. Mucho gracias to all!



Clockwise from upper right:

New Hope Housing Trustees Barney & Jimmi Barnwell enjoy gala festivities;

Gala guests in the South-of-the-Border spirit, from left to right: Chris and Annie Harris, Tammy and Dave Kenney;

Congressman Gerry Connolly (VA-11th) addresses the crowd;

Congressman Jim Moran (VA-8th) welcomes guests.

Gala Donor Headed to Hollywood

The 2011 Gala de Mayo raised much needed support for New Hope Housing thanks to a very special donation from **Greg Garcia**.

An Arlington native who graduated from Yorktown High School, Mr. Garcia is creator and executive producer of the hit FOX television series *Raising Hope*. Highly successful in the television industry, Mr. Garcia has maintained ties to his home community. Mr. Garcia donated a walk-on role in next season's *Raising Hope* for the New Hope Housing 2011 Gala auction. Along with the walk-on spot, a trip to Hollywood for two, an autographed *Raising Hope* script, and clothes from the show's child actors were donated as well.

Garcia has been a great friend of New Hope Housing for several years. His earlier network shows included the Emmy Award-winning *My Name Is Earl*. In 2008 a team of cast members from the show competed on *Celebrity Family Feud* and won \$10,000 that



Garcia donated to New Hope Housing.

"All of us at New Hope Housing really appreciate Greg's support and his interest in helping us," commented Pam Michell, New Hope Housing's executive director. "He is a talented and generous friend. I've known Greg's mom, Natalie, a local realtor, for several years, and we were delighted to having her and her friends with us for the Gala as well."

New Hope Housing friends **Jim & Dee Taylor** outbid other auction-goers and won this one-of-a-kind item. Certainly Mr. & Mrs. Taylor will have a memorable experience, but most importantly their donation will support New Hope Housing's programs to help homeless families and individuals in our community.

Many thanks and congratulations Jim and Dee. We look forward to seeing one of you on *Raising Hope* this fall!

Shoes4Kids Event Benefits Children in New Hope Housing Programs

It has been said that Cinderella is proof that a pair of shoes can change your life. A group of physical therapists expect new shoes for local homeless children will improve their health and even their future.

On Thursday, June 9, forty-eight children residing at Mondloch House Family Shelter, Alexandria Community Shelter, and New Hope Housing transitional housing programs were given a new pair of athletic shoes thanks to a nationwide service project called **Shoes4Kids** supported by the **American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)** and physical therapists, physical therapy assistants and physical therapy students from around the country.

Project coordinator **Brad Thuringer**, a physical therapist from South Dakota, started Shoes4Kids in 2006. Since then the organization has distributed over 3,000 pairs of new athletic shoes to underprivileged and underserved young people in Orlando, Washington, San Antonio, Baltimore and Boston during the American Physical Therapy Association's annual conferences. Thuringer explains: "Our mission is to make a difference in the life and health of children. By making sure they have well-made shoes that fit properly, we are promoting and encouraging the benefits of exercise."



Dr. Bini Litwin from the APTA shows how even the youngest residents of Mondloch House were fitted with new shoes.

The Shoes4Kids event at New Hope Housing was held in conjunction with APTA's Annual Conference & Exposition June 8-11 at National Harbor, Maryland. Our thanks to Brad and all the APTA volunteers.

Spring 2011 Volunteer Opportunities and In-Kind Donation Needs

Lawn maintenance volunteers are needed! We have several properties, at various locations, requiring regular mowing—a great volunteer job for a small group!

Volunteers are needed in the Education and Employment Resource Center at the Kennedy Shelter, evenings or week-ends, to increase the hours when help is available for residents working with computers and online resources.

Tutors are needed to work with residents preparing for the GED – subject areas include math and language arts.

Skilled volunteers who can assist with home repairs and have weekday availability are needed on an ongoing basis.

Barber or hair stylist willing to cut residents' hair prior to job interviews—either in their shop or at the shelter—once a week or once a month—this is an ongoing need, so more than one volunteer is needed.

Filing helper is needed to assist in the accounting department, one day per week. For more information, contact Chris (703-799-2293, ext. 722, or cbramante@newhopehousing.org).

In-Kind Donation Needs

It's summer time and we have lots of children who would enjoy recreational activities! Movie passes, water park tickets, RECenter passes, skating, bowling—if you would like to help us provide summer fun for children in shelter, passes/tickets may be mailed to the administration office, to the attention of Chris.

Gift cards (\$10 cards to fast food restaurants, Wal-Mart, Target) make great incentive rewards for our residents! Gift cards may be sent to the administration office.

We will be furnishing several efficiency apartments in the late summer and early fall and will be in need of furniture and household goods. We will post these needs on our website and in our e-mail news when the units are available. Please check the website, www.newhopehousing.org, and contact us if you can supply any of the items listed (Chris at 703-799-2293, ext. 722, or cbramante@newhopehousing.org).

Thank you!

Have Old Cell Phones?

Donate them to New Hope Housing! We recycle them and receive cash back to support our programs.



Did You Know...

Each year on a designated night in January, an unduplicated count is made of all persons who are homeless in our metropolitan area. The 2011 study found a 2% decrease in the number of homeless persons across the entire Washington metro area compared to January 2010, with substantial variations across jurisdictions. In northern Virginia, there was a 13% decrease in persons who are homeless in Arlington County, a 16% increase in the City of Alexandria, and almost no change in Fairfax County-Falls Church. Still, we had 2,426 persons in these communities who were homeless, including 745 children in families.

A short overview of the point-in-time findings—

	Jan. 2009	Jan. 2010	Jan. 2011
Single Adults			
Fairfax-Falls Church	663	652	666
Arlington	322	347	268
Alexandria	223	208	264
Adults in Families			
Fairfax-Falls Church	438	342	344
Arlington	71	76	81
Alexandria	55	63	58
Children in Families			
Fairfax-Falls Church	629	550	539
Arlington	118	108	112
Alexandria	82	88	94
Total	2,601	2,434	2,426

New Hope Expands Its Work in Alexandria



On October 1, 2010, New Hope Housing began operation of the Alexandria Community Shelter, a 65-bed shelter serving both families and single adults. This is the first program offered by New Hope Housing in the City of Alexandria. “The Alexandria Community Shelter is a vital component of the City of Alexandria’s network of services to meet the needs of men, women, and children who are homeless. We are very pleased to have been selected to serve as the operating agency for the shelter,” said **Pamela L. Michell**, Executive Director. “New Hope Housing is committed to serving homeless families and individuals with dignity and respect, and to finding effective and lasting solutions to the reality of homelessness.”

The addition of the Alexandria Community Shelter (ACS) to New Hope Housing’s programs expands the agency’s shelter operations to include 179 beds offered year-round to serve homeless families and single adults, as well as 47 added beds in winter months. The ACS staff work closely with City of Alexandria services and many other nonprofit agencies for referral of residents, to assist shelter residents to return to housing in the community as rapidly as possible, and to provide the employment, education, counseling and other services needed to reach stability. Michell commented, “We look forward to continued work with Alexandria City agencies and other nonprofit organizations that are working to end and prevent homelessness in Alexandria.”

VIC-HOP and Falls Church Winter Shelters Close Successful Seasons

On March 31, New Hope Housing’s winter emergency shelter programs closed for the season. Together, the Falls Church Winter Shelter (FCWS) and Ventures in Community Hypothermia Outreach Program (VIC-HOP) served 154 individuals over their four month operation.

New Hope Housing works with the **Friends of the Falls Church Shelter** to operate FCWS on Gordon Road in Falls Church. The shelter serves up to 12 homeless men and women each night during the December 1 to March 31 winter period. Both New Hope Housing staff and volunteers from The Friends provided assistance to residents of the shelter; nearly 350 volunteers helped during the four months. The Friends of the Falls Church Shelter, which supports the shelter program financially as well as through its volunteer work, is a dedicated group that has been ensuring successful winter seasons for many years. This year staff and volunteers helped six residents to obtain permanent housing in the community.

The 2010-11 winter was the sixth season in which VIC-HOP has provided a safe, welcoming overnight shelter for homeless adults on the Route One corridor in southeast Fairfax County. VIC-HOP is a collaborative community program—New Hope Housing manages the program and coordinates volunteers, **Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church** provides the space, and volunteers from **Ventures in Community** congregations and other community volunteers provide overnight staffing.

VIC-HOP served 103 different individuals during the season, with average nightly occupancy of 23 persons, and all 25 spaces in use on most nights. Seventeen Ventures in Community congregations provided volunteers on a regular



Celebrating success at the end-of-year Bar-B-Q at VIC-HOP Shelter.

schedule to ensure that the shelter was fully staffed. **Sherry Edelkamp**, shelter coordinator, commented, “Every year this program gets better. I believe it is because the volunteers care about our guests and our guests recognize this. They appreciate having a place to come where they feel respected, truly cared for, treated fairly and not judged. The volunteers have learned about the homeless population and how very difficult it is to be on the streets, and our guests learn that people really do care about them.”

Sherrill Hendricks, VIC-HOP team leader for **Mount Vernon United Methodist Church**, was one of over 400 hundred volunteers who helped operate the program this year. Her **Mount Vernon UMC volunteer group** served every Tuesday night in February & March. “It was very rewarding personally, and the overnight guests were very appreciative,” she said.

illumination



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2010-2011 Outstanding Staff!

Congratulations and many thanks to New Hope Housing staff who were recognized over the past year for their outstanding work.

Employees of the Quarter:

Lee Voltmer
Staff Accountant, Administration

Sandra Jago
Cook, Mondloch House Shelters

Sue Ryan
Case Manager, Housing First Program

Katie Hurley
Case Manager, Family Transitional Housing

Employee of the Year:

Stanley Royals
Resident Services Specialist, Kennedy Shelter Annex

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or Commonwealth of
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