2014

45th 1969 ANNIVERSARY 2014





ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2013 - JUNE 2014

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We unite all these communities to strengthen the whole community.



From Our President

Dear Friends,

Thank you for being part of United Community Ministries!

At UCM, "community" is our middle name. It is with your support and the support of the numerous individuals, families, faith communities, businesses, social organizations, schools, Scout troops, unions and local foundations that make up Mount Vernon that we can say that we are 'at the heart of community.'



UCM is truly a network of connected and engaged individuals, supporting each other, creating a successful Mount Vernon community.

In this report you'll learn about some of the families who turn to us for support. You'll see some of the numbers we use to measure our services and the impact they have that changes lives. And you'll see the work of the volunteers and supporters who make all this possible.

2014 is UCM's 45th anniversary year. We celebrated with our 45th Anniversary Gala hosted by the wonderful Friends of UCM. It was our most successful Gala ever, thanks to many of you. The Gala featured the premiere of our new video, *The Heart of Community*. If you haven't seen it, please take a few minutes to see it on our website, www.ucmagency.org. I think you'll agree it captures the spirit of UCM.

UCM is a caring, comprehensive avenue to success. Our mission statement sums it up—UCM mobilizes the power of community to equip, educate, and empower people to measurably improve their lives.

Thank you again for supporting United Community Ministries.

Sincerely,

Christiane Gigi Hyland

President, UCM Board of Directors

Our New Look!



We were pleased to announce our new graphic presence this year to reflect where United Community Ministries has always been: at the heart of community, bringing help and hope to people struggling to achieve success.

Our logo depicts a central person lifting up a heart, flanked by two other people and the tagline, "At the Heart of Community." The red heart symbolizes caring, and the people represent our volunteers, staff, clients, and supporters like you.

We hope our new logo and outreach efforts inspire people to learn more about their community's needs and about UCM. If you, or someone you know, would like to see our caring, committed UCM community in action, we are happy to show you! The more caring people we have at the heart of community, the more people in need can be served and can thrive.

The Heart of Community



"Community is a beautiful garden that we need to take care of. We are all different but we are all one..."

We were also pleased to announce our new video, *The Heart of Community*. As told by our clients, volunteers, and staff, the short video shows the impact of your support to stabilize, empower and engage everyone in our community. Together, we can change lives. Watch the video on our home page,

ucmagency.org. What does the heart of community mean to you?

Statistics

UCM YEAR IN REVI	EW 2014	- FAMILIES & CHILDREN
Individuals served by the Basic Needs program	543	1,239 visited Creekside Village Community & Sacramento Neighborhood centers
PREVENTED EVICTION OR HOMELESSNESS FOR	111 families	20 youths received job readiness training
Prevented utility disconnection for	204 families	6-to-18-year olds benefited from social skills trainings and workshops
Families provided with basic assessment, counseling and referrals		174 students in Forward Steps leadership training
Individuals received computer training at the Work Center	80	Pre-K children received developmentally appropriate curriculum at the BEL Center
Improved their computer literacy, increasing their employability	53 individuals	children graduated from the BEL Center, emotionally and cognitively prepared for kindergarten
received job coaching services	167	families received six months of social services, preventing child abuse and neglect
provided food	individuals Up to	parenting teens attended parenting workshops
every weekday	100 families	1,000+ children received backpacks and school supplies

Families Helped

Our services prevent homelessness and create strong families.

Basic Needs

Donna and her 60-year old diabetic mother were living paycheck to paycheck—but making ends meet—until her mom was injured on the job and couldn't work. Then, Donna was laid off from her accounting job.

"My mom even went without her medicine to save money...It's really scary," she said. "But our UCM counselor was caring and encouraging. She listened and helped us with groceries, plus, medical prescriptions and utilities and rental assistance. If not for that, we would have lost our home. It was a real lifesaver to discover UCM."



As our counselors work with clients, like Donna and her mother, who are struggling to make ends meet, they send a powerful message of hope. With support and hope, people can move forward to more stable, successful lives.

UCM Work Center

Sam was committed to providing a better life for his wife and young boys. So he trained for and received a HVAC technician certification. But even then, he had trouble landing a position.

"Every time on my own, I failed the HVAC job interview. When I found the UCM Work Center, the team there helped me a lot with my resume and interview techniques. They gave me the power, the confidence, about how to talk to an employer — and helped me get the interview with Tech 24. When they called me back, I was anxious because with other interviews before, it was always no. I was holding my breath but they said, 'What's your size because we need to order your uniform.' Then I got happy, very happy."





And, Sam's family is thriving, too:

"I'm really happy and growing in my field. My wife is going to get help with her English and then training at the Work Center, so she can choose where she's going to work. I'm really proud of my three boys. They're really good at elementary school. Ali, he's 8, he wants to be a doctor or a police officer. I think his future's going to be set when he grows up, so he can get a job anywhere he wants."

Battelle Scholarships

Competitive college scholarships were awarded to graduating seniors at Mount Vernon and West Potomac high schools pursuing studies in science, technology, engineering, and math. The scholarships were funded by The Battelle Foundation Fund. Ten students received \$2,000 each:



West Potomac High School Recipients

Michael Boggess, University of Rhode Island

Laraib Ilyas: Princeton University

Jiayi Liu: George Mason University



Mount Vernon High School Recipients

Ferdinand Agyei-Yeboa, Virginia Commonwealth University

Dorcas Bentil, Lynchburg College

Ghadeer Bilal, Northern Virginia Community College

Clement A. Boateng, Northern Virginia Community College

Tyler Johnson, Duke University

Anwar Muhammad, Virginia Commonwealth University

Emelia Quaye, Northern Virginia Community College

Sequoyah Friends



This year, UCM helped established the Sequoyah Friends, a group for residents of Sequoyah Condominiums who educates each other about available services, resources, programs and activities that build self-sufficiency and promote community involvement.

"As noted in many studies, more engaged residents mean a more stable and successful community for all," said Blanca Vasquez, UCM's community developer.

Ten residents participated in a special leadership course on Vitalizing Communities, developed by UCM in partnership with the Alexandria South Rotary Club. The workshop included asset inventory strategies, community vision and mobilization, and a community assets map.

Sharing the Love of Reading



We know the importance of books and reading here at UCM. A heartfelt thanks to all the groups who hosted book collection drives. Here are some of the families, schools, and churches and clubs who held drives for us:

- Aquinas Montessori School
- Bethany Lutheran Church
- CBRE
- The Conti Family Grandkids
- Sharon Eddy, State Farm Agency
- Epiphany Weekday School
- Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club
- Mount Vernon Evening Lions Club
- Messiah Lutheran Church

Food Drives



Scouting for Food is UCM's largest single-day food drive. In November, we received seven tons of food donations! Thank you to the Scouts for collecting all that food for us.



The Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club sponsors a quarterly food drive at the Safeway in Fort Hunt Road.



In May, the Letter Carriers from Union Branch 567, along with other sponsors, collected food donations placed in mailboxes or at front doors for *Stamp Out*





In June, the Old Town
Historic Alexandria office of
Long & Foster Real Estate,
Inc. held a food drive for its
community service day.
They collected more than
1,400 pounds of food.



West Potomac High rising senior Nina Shute organized the "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" Drive, recruiting and coordinating 40+ volunteers. Donations were

organized at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. More than 3,500 pounds of food were collected.



We also thank the McCutheon/Mount Vernon Farmers' Market vendors who donate unsold, fresh produce and baked goods to our Food Pantry.

Healthy fruits and veggies are not always affordable to our clients. Your generosity makes them accessible.

So Many Events, So Many Supporters to Thank...

This year, so many supporters of UCM showed that they care by hosting events for UCM. Here's just a sampling.



Teaism in Old Town sponsored a showing of *A Place at the Table*—the documentary about hunger in America. Ten percent of purchases that evening benefitted UCM's program. And, supporters brought healthy food items for UCM's food pantry.



UCM had a booth at the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber First Annual Celebration!, a showcase of our community at the Inova Mount Vernon Hospital grounds. Attendees enjoyed a day of kids' activities, performances by local high school groups, a business expo, and more.



Dr. James Geren and Dr. Zeyad Mady of Mt. Vernon Center for Dentistry and their team, plus oral surgeon Dr. Rolin Henry, donated their time and services to UCM clients in October for their annual Dental Day. Twenty-five UCM clients received treatment to relieve chronic pain and help them smile again.



UCM thanks Bellies and Babies Consignment Boutique for their monthly donations of maternity and children's clothing and related necessities. Our families appreciate the help.



All you had to do was say, "I support UCM," when you ordered your pizza one night last fall at zpizza on Richmond Highway, and 25% of your purchase went to UCM! zpizza also donated \$5 for each \$10 box pizza sold.



Help the Homeless campaign donors received a free, medium-sized coffee at Grounded Coffee Shop. Owners, Candy and Will, have been generous to UCM in this and so many other ways.



A donation to UCM meant that you could select a one-of-a-kind ceramic bowl crafted and generously donated by local artists from The Torpedo Factory and get a bowl of soup donated by The Chart House.



Metro Run & Walk of Springfield held its 5 Mile Trail Run and One Mile Trail Walk to benefit UCM on Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend. Runners brought food, too!



The 'Stuff the Bus' Food Drive for UCM in February at the Mt. Vernon Plaza Shoppers Food Warehouse filled up the Fastran bus with your food donations. Fairfax County partnered with MV Transportation, Inc. on this event.



The Harmony Heritage Singers "Concert for UCM" in April featured this terrific barbershop chorus at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church. Their special concert for UCM is an annual event.



Nationwide Insurance Agents, led by district manager John Kamenicky, kicked off their annual community service event with more than \$1,250 in cash and food donations to stock UCM's Food Pantry! Our neighbor ServiceMaster National Capital Restoration held a staff Food Drive to participate, too.



On Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend, Ventures in Community sponsored its 19th Annual Choir Festival at Good Shepherd Catholic Church to support local agencies, including UCM.

Agency News



UCM **Back Porch Thrift Store** moved to a more spacious location at the Sacramento Shopping Center, next to UCM Sacramento Neighborhood Center.

The new location features a larger, improved store with convenient donor drop-off and ample parking. Thank you to ALine Architecture and Genuario Construction for creating our new site. Whether shopping or donating, you are helping neighbors in need!



The **UCM Work Center** moved a short distance to a more spacious location at 8305 Richmond Highway in the Mount Zephyr Business Park in February.



Have you seen our newly wrapped Back Porch Thrift Store and Food Pantry trucks around town? They are now outfitted with our new look and logo!

Progreso Hispano Joins UCM



Progreso Center for Literacy and Citizenship joined UCM, and Progreso services—ESL, citizenship, translation and leadership—were integrated into UCM's programs. We are glad to work in partnership with Cristina Schoendorf and the dedicated Progreso instructors and staff.

This year Progreso taught ESL to more than 200 students and prepared 84 people to become U.S.

citizens. Progreso and the Work Center also received a \$25,000 grant from the Eugene and Agnes Meyer Foundation to support its programs.

Financial Information

FY 2014 Unaudited Revenues and Expenses

Revenues	\$	%
Unrestricted & Designated	607,422	9%
Contributions		
Special Events	299,640	4%
Grants	343,210	5%
United Way	110,381	2%
In-Kind	2,231,722	33%
Government Agencies	1,414,796	21%
Program Service Fees	1,197,543	18%
Interests & Investments	14,034	0%
Sales to the Public	443,680	7%
Miscellaneous Income	13,510	0%
Total Revnues	6,675,938	100%

Expenditures	\$	%
Direct Assistance	1,921,883	28%
Personnel	3,222,628	47%
Operating	1,670,314	25%
Total Expenditures	6,814,825	100%

Ending Net Assets: \$1,331,757

The Friends of UCM

The Friends of UCM is an extraordinary volunteer membership organization that builds community spirit through fundraising and public awareness activities. Over \$1 million has been raised by dedicated Friends since the group's founding in 2001. Because of their work, thousands of other people have learned about the needs of their low-income neighbors and about how they can help UCM provide solutions.

Capitol Steps – A record number of community members came together to support UCM for this year's Capitol Steps Benefit, which raised \$65,500 for UCM's programs.





45th **Anniversary Gala** – Held for the first time at the Madison Building (US PTO) in Old Town, the Anniversary Gala on March 21 raised a record-breaking \$180,000. This year, there was a special raffle drawing for an all-inclusive vacation package with airfare at the Casa De Campo resort in the Dominican Republic.





The Friends also held a special **Tour and Tasting** at Port City Brewing Company in June. Supporters toured the brewery, visited the Tasting Room and enjoyed beer fresh from the taps.



Donors

UCM is deeply grateful for the generous financial support from everyone in the community: individuals, corporations, civic groups, and faith communities. Due to space limitations, only contributions of \$500 or more made between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014 are listed here. However, we thank everyone who has given us support at any level. If you find your listing to be in error, please contact Christine Lucas, Director of Development, at 571.255.8985. Thank you for your generosity. We could not do all that we do without your support!

\$50,000+

Fannie Mae Help the Homeless

Freddie Mac Foundation

Friends of UCM

Dominion Energy Share

Estate of Lois A. Valencourt

Fairfax County

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

\$25,000+

Batelle Foundation Fund

Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation

Elaine D. Kolish and David M. Fitzgerald

The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation

United Way of the National Capital Area

Walmart Foundation

\$10,000+

Bank of America Charitable Foundation

BJ's Charitable Foundation

Clark-Winchole Foundation

Delman-Mortenson Charitable Foundation

Devotion to Children, Inc.

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

Christiane Gigi Hyland

Mr. & Mrs. Douglas J. Kennett

Northern Virginia Association of Realtors

Brig. Gen. & Mrs. Carlos E. Martinez

Wells Fargo Foundation

\$5.000+

Anonymous

Banks Family Foundation

Mr. & Mrs. Gregory L. Bender

Boeing Co. Employee. Community Fund

The Boeing Company Gift Match

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St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Program

Marianne Urban

Mr. & Mrs. George K. Withers, Jr.

\$2,500+

Alexandria Religious Friends

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Mr. & Mrs. David Barbour

Belvoir Woods Protestant Mission

Society

Deborah Berger

Bethlehem Baptist Church

Calvary Presbyterian Church

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Ft. Belvoir Consolidated Chaplains

Dr. & Mrs. James Geren

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen P. Harbeck

Heritage Presbyterian Church

Nancy Lee Hindman

The Honorable Gerry W. Hyland

Col. & Mrs. Lawrence W. Jackley

Mr. James R. Klein & Ms. Elisabeth

Lardner

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Arleen B. Richman

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Katie Shinners

Smiles for Life Foundation

St. Aidan's Episcopal Church

St. Mark's' Episcopal Church

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Kurlansik

Mr. & Mrs. Charles N. Winkels

\$1000+

Aldersgate UMC Men's Club

Alexandria Lighting & Supply Inc.

All Saints Episcopal Church

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Belle View Baptist Church

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Jeanne Patrice Willoughby

Ways to Give

Together, we can change lives. Please join us in helping low-income families and individuals build self-reliance, and in community-building among all our neighbors. There are many ways you can help us help others.

Donate Funds. Financial donations are essential to maintaining our services. Every gift makes a difference and there are many ways to express your generosity towards the community. Mail donations to:

United Community Ministries | 7511 Fordson Road | Alexandria, VA 22306.

You can also make an online contribution at www.ucmagency.org. Or, give through workplace campaigns, including the CFC and United Way Campaigns.





CFC #37839

37839 United Way #8199

Planned Contributions. We also have opportunities for planned contributions, including memorials, honorariums, wills and bequests, stock donations and matching gifts. For additional information, please contact our Director of Development Christine Lucas at 703-768-7106, ext. 338.

Activities and Events. UCM holds several fundraising events and activities throughout the year. We have a back-to-school drive in August, a holiday drive in December, a Gala in the spring, and many more. Join us! We can even help you organize your own event for UCM.

Volunteer. We have many volunteer opportunities for both individuals and groups. Join us and your neighbors today. Visit our volunteer page to get started, http://www.ucmagency.org/volunteer.html

Mission, Values, Vision

UCM Mission

UCM mobilizes the power of community to equip, educate, and empower people to measurably improve their lives.

UCM Values

The mission of UCM's work is rooted in a core set of values. These core values, embraced by UCM's board, staff, and volunteers comprise the foundation of UCM's unique purpose and perspective.

- We acknowledge passion as an integral driver of who we are, how we serve, and where we are headed as an
 organization.
- We recognize the dignity of all individuals and promote mutual **respect** by valuing the diversity, strengths, experiences, and perspectives of others.
- We conduct our work with **integrity** acting consistently with UCM's mission, being honest and transparent in what we do and say, and accepting responsibility for our collective and individual actions.
- We recognize **caring** for others as the primary foundation for building effective relationships and demonstrate it through concern, empathy, and consideration for the needs and values of others.
- Acknowledging the interconnectedness among individuals, families, organizations, and communities and the
 mutually influencing systems among them, we employ holistic approaches to effect change and ultimately
 improve quality of life.
- We strive to consistently empower the community—people we serve, our volunteers, and donors—and challenge
 ourselves to continually learn and grow in order to achieve greater impact and reach full human potential.

Vision

No member of the UCM community will ever be hungry, homeless, helpless, or hopeless.



THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT IN 2014.

UCM's mission is to mobilize the power of community to equip, educate, and empower people to measurably improve their lives.



ucmagency.org

р 703.768.7106 г 703.768.4788 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, VA 22306

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