



### Holiday Gift Room - December 2013

You donated close to 10,000 toys, warm clothing, and other gifts that ensured a joy-filled December holiday for more than 1,200 children! Scores of UCM volunteers helped to organize, sort, and re-stock gifts, as well as escort parents selecting gifts for their kids. (See page 4 for a list of toy drives sponsor groups.)



### Back to School - August 2013

You donated new backpacks and money for school supplies so that more than 1,000 children could start school ready to succeed! Scores of volunteers of all ages spent hundreds of hours organizing, sorting, and filling the backpacks – and assisting eager students to pick out a special one just for them! (See page 4 for a list of sponsor groups.)



### Community Service - 2013

School groups, faith communities, civic and social groups, neighborhood associations, scouts ... we are grateful to the many caring, diverse organizations that generously host our drives for food, kids books, winter coats, and our Holiday Gift Room.

### You Make The Difference!

You change lives for the better, each and every day... helping thousands of individuals and families in need to achieve stability and success.

Your support matters: your donations of time, talent, and treasure make our work possible.

We couldn't do what we do without you!

### Thank You!

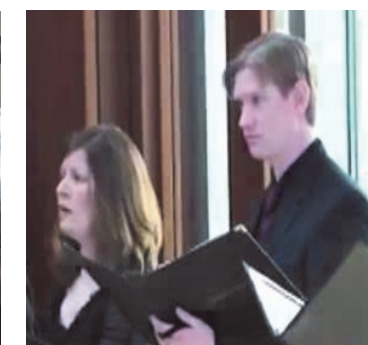


### Scouting for Food - November 2013

The annual community-wide *Scouting for Food* drive is UCM's biggest single-day food drive, with hundreds of Boy Scouts collecting food pantry items from thousands of area residents at their homes. Hundreds of volunteers helped collect, unpack, sort, and store more than 8 tons of food at UCM, just in time for the holiday season!

### ... At the Heart of Community

## UCM: UNITED COMMUNITY MINISTRIES



### Help the Homeless - Fall 2013

Scores of walk event coordinators, parents, teachers, volunteers, sponsors, businesses, and supporters made possible our Help the Homeless walks and fundraising events. Our UCM Advocates for the Homeless checks earned a match from host Fannie Mae, plus our \$5,000 walk participant award! Thanks for raising funds and awareness of poverty in our community! (See page 4 for a list of sponsor groups.)



### Events to Benefit UCM

We thank you and all your neighbors who joined us to attend a concert or event, dine or shop to benefit UCM's programs, or participated in other creative ways to raise funds for UCM. The extra publicity and awareness generated for our mission are critical. We always need to engage more community members to help. A special thank you to our most recent hosts, including: Grounded Coffee, NVAR, Teatism in Alexandria, and zpizza Mount Vernon.





United Community Ministries, Inc.

7511 Fordson Road  
Alexandria VA 22306  
Phone: (703) 768-7106  
Fax: (703) 768-4788  
info@ucmagency.org  
www.ucmagency.org

www.facebook.com/UCM.Alexandria  
Twitter: @UCMAlex

Volunteer with us:  
Visit www.ucmagency.org for an Adult or  
Youth application to email to  
volunteer@ucmagency.org

### Back To School

Thank you to the groups that sponsored  
backpack and donations drives, including:

A & A Rental Station  
Apple Federal Credit Union  
Calvary Presbyterian Church  
Cintron Safe & Lock Co. Inc.  
Cotton & Company, LLP  
Don Beyer Volvo Alexandria  
Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Firefighters and Paramedics Union,  
Fairfax County  
First Christian Church of Alexandria  
Grounded Coffee Shop  
Heritage Presbyterian Church  
ICNA Relief  
ITSC Information Technology Solutions  
Mt. Vernon Inova Hospital  
Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church  
Nativity Lutheran Church  
Plymouth Haven Baptist Church  
Virginia's Finest Autoclub  
Watt Tieder Hoffar & Fitzgerald LLP

### Winter Coat Drives

Thank you to the groups that sponsored  
recent coat drives , including:

Browne Academy  
Don Beyer Volvo Alexandria  
Fairfax County Neighborhood &  
Community Services  
Firefighters and Paramedics Union,  
Fairfax County  
George Washington's Mount Vernon  
Estate  
Mt. Vernon Methodist Church  
Nativity Lutheran Church  
Third Baptist Church of Alexandria  
Virginia's Finest Autoclub  
Woodley Hills Elementary School

### Help The Homeless

Thank you to all our Mini-Walk event and  
other sponsors, including:

American Legion Post #24  
Anonymous Sponsor  
Aquinas Montessori  
Browne Academy  
Friends of UCM  
Grounded Coffee Shop  
Heritage Presbyterian Church  
JLV Partners  
Montessori School of Alexandria  
Mt. Vernon AAUW Branch  
Mt. Vernon Bluestockings Book Club  
St. Aidan's Day School  
St. Louis Catholic School  
St. Luke's Day School  
UCM Sleep In to Help Out Donors  
Waynewood Elementary School  
West Potomac High School -  
Junior ROTC  
UCM Advocates for the Homeless  
UCM Board of Directors

### Holiday Gifts/ Food

Thank you to the groups who sponsored drives  
and giving trees, including:

Aldersgate Methodist Church  
Alexandria Elks Lodge #758  
Alexandria Community Dancers (Emma Cullen)  
Alice's Kids  
Antioch Baptist Church  
Belle Haven Women's Club &  
Citizens' Association  
Belle View Baptist Church  
Burke & Herbert Bank: Cooper Rd.,  
Sherwood Hall, Telegraph Rd. Branches  
Curves Belle View  
DAR, Nelly Custis Chapter  
Don Beyer Volvo Alexandria  
Duke St. Speedy Lube  
ExxonMobil  
Fire and Rescue Dept., Fairfax County  
First Christian Church of Alexandria

Ft. Belvoir Elementary School  
Franconia Citizens Advisory Committee  
Friends of UCM  
Gold's Gym Richmond Hwy.  
Good Shepherd Catholic Church  
Grounded Coffee Shop  
Hollin Hall Senior Center  
Honest One Autocare  
Inova Rehabilitation Center  
InTotal Health  
Kids Care Holiday Hope Chest  
King Glen Elementary School  
Knights of Columbus - St. Louis Church  
Mamma's Kitchen  
McEanearney Associates Old Town  
Mt. Vernon Athletic Club  
Mt. Vernon Center for Dentistry  
Mt. Vernon Evening Lions Club  
Mt. Vernon Garden Club  
Mt. Vernon Kiwanis Club  
Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church  
Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church  
Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church  
Mt. Vernon Woods Elementary  
Nativity Lutheran Church  
Oliff & Berridge, PLC  
People to People Intl. Club, Edison High  
Post Carlyle Square  
Alec Robert's neighborhood  
St. James Episcopal Church  
St. Louis Catholic Church  
St. Louis Catholic School  
St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
Starbucks: Beacon Center, Mt.  
Vernon Plaza  
State Farm Insurance (Sharon Eddy)  
Third Baptist Church  
Toys for Tots - US Marines  
Virginia's Finest Autoclub  
Washington Farm United Methodist Church  
Waynewood Citizens' Association  
Wesley United Methodist Church  
Devin Williams  
Zpizza Mount Vernon



## United Community Ministries

Building Strong Families, Strong Communities

Building Strong Communities Report  
December 2013

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www.facebook.com/  
UCM.Alexandria

@UCMAlex

UW 8199

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Dear Friend:

**Wow! What a difference YOU have made** – a positive, long-term impact on children, parents, and our whole community. Take a peek inside to see how we have brought together people who want to help, with people who need that outstretched hand.

As you know, UCM lifts people in need out of poverty and isolation. When they come to UCM, we provide help and hope so they can build a better future. Our staff and volunteers are a life-line for thousands of children, families and individuals.

But it is your generous involvement and commitment that makes the critical difference in helping local adults and children grow and thrive. **Because of you, we are changing lives for the better.**

To celebrate the New Year and your involvement, we've created a "UCM scrapbook" that we are happy to be able to share with you. **Please take a look inside to see highlights of just a few recent examples of our community in action.** We hope you'll spot some friends and neighbors...or even yourself!

All of our community benefits when together we enhance the quality of life for each of our residents. By creating more stability and cohesion, within families and within the community, we make a life-time difference. **Thank you for the important part you play... at the heart of community.**

Together, we are changing lives...providing opportunities for personal and community success. Every life changed contributes to a stronger community for us all. I look forward to seeing you soon in 2014.

Best wishes for a Happy New Year,

Shirley Marshall  
Executive Director



View our Holiday Gift Room  
photo album at Facebook!

P.S. 2014 is our 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year! Celebrate with us and the wonderful Friends of UCM! Laugh at the Capitol Steps on Jan. 26 and party at the Friend's of UCM Gala on March 29. See www.ucmagency.org for tickets and details.