

Contact:  
Tara Nadel  
703-879-7637  
[tara.nadel@cfnova.org](mailto:tara.nadel@cfnova.org)



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Community Foundation for Northern Virginia  
Grants Largest Cycle to Date - More than \$375,000 to 39 Local Nonprofits  
2015 Community Investment Grant Cycle Supports the Region's Neediest**

**Oakton, VA** (February 11, 2015) – The **Community Foundation for Northern Virginia** announced the winners of its 2015 Community Investment Grants today. The organizations, all of which provide support in critical areas of need throughout Northern Virginia, have received grants of up to \$10,000 that will further their impact on the health, education, and general wellbeing of neighbors, communities, and the entire region. **The total sum of grants made is \$377,637.**

The Community Foundation convened volunteer committees that consisted of area experts, donors, and Foundation board members to review the 109 applications, after an initial 190 Letters of Intent were submitted to the organization. Applications were accepted in the following areas of need: Child and Youth Development; Education; Health, Mental Health and Aging; and Poverty Relief. One larger award of \$42,250 was also given through the Military Personnel & Their Families Fund to continue the Foundation's ongoing support of service coordination and navigation assistance for veterans and their families in the region. The Community Investment Fund grant cycle is the largest of the Community Foundation's discretionary fund cycles.

Community Foundation Board Member, Ken Huntsman, served as the 2015 Community Investment Fund Grants Committee Chair. "It is always a pleasure to work with such passionate volunteers, staff and board members to review the grant applications," said Huntsman. "The Community Investment Grants demonstrate the diverse range of both needs and services we see throughout Northern Virginia, and we have identified an inspiring range of grant winners committed to helping meet the needs of our neediest neighbors."

Grant winners are as follows, and photos are available at <http://bit.ly/cif2015>:

**Child and Youth Development**

**AHC, Inc., \$10,000\*\***

*Serving Arlington County*

Funding will provide after-school enrichment activities with a key focus on literacy to 118 low income children in grades K-5 who live in AHC's affordable housing communities.

**Cornerstones/Reston Interfaith, Inc., \$10,000**

*Serving Fairfax County*

Funding will provide after-school homework support and academic enrichment opportunities to kindergarten through sixth grade children from low-income and homeless families in the Reston/Herndon area.

**Edu-Futuro (Educacion Para Nuestro Futuro), \$7,975\*\***

*Serving All of Northern Virginia*

Funding will support the Emerging Leaders Program, a leadership development program that supports at-risk immigrant youth in the pursuit of a higher education.

**Greenbrier Learning Center, \$10,000\*\***

*Serving Arlington County*

Funding will help provide high-quality academic and social-emotional support to upper-elementary students from low-income households in Arlington through an intensive, daily after-school and summer program that engages parents and schools as partners through the Learning ROCKS! Program.

**Northern Virginia Community College Education Foundation, \$9,720**

*Serving Fairfax County*

Funding will support the participation of underserved youth in Fairfax County communities in the VEX Robotics Competition, in which they will learn critical problem solving and computer skills, gain experience with designing and building a robot in a team environment, and be inspired to explore future STEM coursework and careers.

**The House, Inc., \$10,000\***

*Serving Prince William County*

Funding will support out-of-school programs of The House, Inc. Student Leadership Center that work to improve health, education, and employment outcomes for middle and high school students.

**The Reading Connection, \$10,000\*\***

*Serving All of Northern Virginia*

Funding will provide at-risk children with free, high quality books and support Reading Family Workshops for parents to increase their understanding of the critical importance of early literacy experiences and increase their confidence/ability to share books with their kids.

**TrailsforYouth.Org, \$5,800**

*Serving Fairfax County*

Funding will provide continued opportunities for at-risk teens to participate in outdoor healthy physical activities while transitioning into part-time employment to gain critical and needed work experience, training and leadership skills.

## **Education**

**BEACON for Adult Literacy, \$10,000**

*Serving Manassas/Manassas Park*

Funding will support a comprehensive program of adult literacy with ESOL instruction, civics education, GED preparation and citizenship preparation for 350 students whose first language is "other than English."

**The Child and Family Network Centers, \$10,000**

*Serving Alexandria*

Funding will support a high-quality early childhood education program for children from low-income and non-English speaking families and to support English as a Second Language classes for their parents.

**Literacy Volunteers of America – Prince William, Inc., \$10,000\***

*Serving Prince William County*

Funding will support vital adult and computer literacy services for 475 low-income ESOL adult learners to help develop or improve English skills to help participants obtain employment, build independence, and provide a

better quality of life for their families.

## **Health, Mental Health and Aging**

### **Arlington Pediatric Center, \$10,000**

*Serving Arlington County*

Funding will provide high quality preventive, acute and behavioral healthcare services to more than 3,500 uninsured children and children of low-income families.

### **CASA CIS, \$10,000\***

*Serving Prince William County*

Funding will help provide a court appointed special advocate to every child who is abused, neglected or abandoned in Prince William County, Manassas City and Manassas Park, so the child may be protected, receive needed services to overcome the trauma and impact of abuse and have a safe and permanent home.

### **Community Residences, Inc., \$2,295**

*Serving All of Northern Virginia*

Funding will help provide dental care for individuals with intellectual disabilities and/or serious mental illnesses who cannot otherwise afford these services.

### **Healthworks for Northern Virginia, \$10,000\***

*Serving Loudoun County*

Funding will provide comprehensive dental care to low-income, uninsured Loudoun County children, ages 2-18.

### **Hepatitis B Initiative of Washington, D.C., \$10,000**

*Serving All of Northern Virginia*

Funding will help provide free glucose, Lipid Panel, and hepatitis B and C screenings for low to no income individuals with limited English proficiency who have no health coverage.

### **Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice/LAWS, \$10,000\***

*Serving Loudoun County*

Funding will support the Director's position which is essential to provide child victims of abuse and their non-offending family members with the vital supportive services needed to prevent their existing trauma from negatively impacting the rest of their lives.

### **Loudoun Volunteer Caregivers, \$10,000\***

*Serving Loudoun County*

Funding will help frail elderly and adults with disabilities maintain independence and quality of life by providing assisted transportation and supportive services such as shopping, visiting, home repair and money management with no fees for services.

### **New Hope Housing, Inc., \$10,000**

*Serving All of Northern Virginia*

Funding will provide housing with ongoing support services to assist chronically homeless single adults address their mental health, substance abuse, medical and dental needs.

### **PAH, Inc., \$8,000\***

*Serving Prince William County*

Funding will support the health and mental health of low-income residents who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Deaf/Blind via healthcare accompaniment, referrals, information, communication facilitation, community workshops and community agency staff trainings.

**Postpartum Support Virginia, \$5,000**

*Serving All of Northern Virginia*

Funding will improve access to high-quality, outcomes-based mental health care for at-risk Latina mothers in Northern Virginia.

**Project Mend-A-House, \$10,000\***

*Serving Prince William County*

Funding will support low-income seniors and people with disabilities to age-in-place and remain safely and independently in their homes by correcting minor safety/structural repairs and/or removing accessibility barriers.

**SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax, \$10,000**

*Serving Fairfax County*

Funding will help provide Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy to child victims and their non-offending caregivers, facilitating healing and enhancing family stabilization and growth.

**Senior Services of Alexandria, \$5,000**

*Serving Alexandria*

Funding will support the Senior Services Grocery to Go program which delivers groceries to seniors who are unable to shop independently yet not ready for the Meals on Wheels program.

**Volunteer Fairfax, \$5,000**

*Serving Fairfax County*

Funding will support the RSVP program for individuals 55+ to meet community needs through meaningful volunteer service while building the capacity of agency partners to provide transportation, meals, and companionship to older adults; increase disaster preparedness; and assist with other community needs.

**Poverty Relief**

**Alternative House, \$10,000**

*Serving Fairfax County*

Funding will help provide housing, counseling and support services to homeless young mothers 16 to 24 years old and their children in Northern Virginia.

**Assistance League of Northern Virginia, \$10,000**

*Serving All of Northern Virginia*

Funding will help provide nutritious food to poor/economically disadvantaged children in five Title 1 elementary schools who are at risk for hunger at home over the weekends.

**Bethany House of Northern Virginia, Inc., \$3,047**

*Serving All of Northern Virginia*

Funding will help provide emergency shelter and support services to women and their children who have been left homeless and destitute due to domestic violence.

**College Access Fairfax, \$7,850**

*Serving Fairfax County*

Funding will help provide Financial Aid Champions for high-risk Fairfax County Public Schools high schools to help students and their parents complete the FAFSA and apply for college financial aid.

**Empowered Women International, \$7,850**

*Serving All of Northern Virginia*

Funding will help provide one-year entrepreneurship training, mentoring, financial education, micro-loans and support services for immigrant, refugee and low-income women to help participants develop business and life skills, launch micro-businesses, and increase income and community participation.

**Fairfax Law Foundation, \$10,000**

*Serving Fairfax County*

Funding will help provide important civil legal services to poverty and low-income clients without cost in order to help those clients more effectively deal with crucial legal issues, as well as achieve self-sufficiency and financial stability.

**Friends of Guest House, Inc., \$10,000**

*Serving All of Northern Virginia*

Funding will support the continuing expansion of the Residential, Aftercare and Outreach programs, with primary goals to reduce recidivism and increase life skills to support clients and their families in the difficult re-entry process from incarceration to the community.

**Linden Resources, Inc., \$7,850**

*Serving All of Northern Virginia*

Funding will support the Vets Ready2Work program, which provides individualized employment support services to veterans with disabilities to combat poverty through the successful attainment and retention of a meaningful career that pays a livable wage within the local community.

**Lorton Community Action Center, \$10,000**

*Serving Fairfax County*

Funding will support the Food and Nutrition Program, which provides emergency and ongoing food assistance to individuals, families, and senior citizens who are at risk or experiencing hunger in Southeastern Fairfax County.

**Loudoun Education Foundation, \$10,000\***

*Serving Loudoun County*

Funding will support the Backpack Coalition Program in the Loudoun County Public Schools' Office of Outreach that provides food for hungry students during weekends allowing the students to focus on learning.

**Northern Virginia Family Service, \$10,000\***

*Serving Prince William County*

Funding will support the Emergency Assistance program of SERVE to provide emergency food, financial assistance, and connection to other resources to prevent individuals and families from experiencing prolonged instability arising from a financial crisis.

**OAR of Fairfax, \$10,000\***

*Serving Loudoun County*

Funding will help offenders and their family members in Loudoun County who are struggling with poverty as a result of incarceration to address emergency needs and reach self-sufficiency through employment.

**Transitional Housing BARN, \$10,000\***

*Serving Prince William County*

Funding will help provide transitional housing, case management, financial assistance and supportive services to homeless women and children in Prince William County and facilitate placement into permanent safe housing.

**Military Personnel & Their Families**

**Serving Together, Mental Health Association of Montgomery County, \$42,250**

*Serving All of Northern Virginia*

Funding will continue to support service coordination and navigation assistance for veterans and military personnel and families in Northern Virginia.

*\*Denotes grants made at the Community Foundation's recommendation from the COATH and Haymarket Donor Advised Funds.*

*\*\*Grants made possible by the generosity of Cecil Pruitt and the Pruitt 2013 Foundation*

The Community Foundation accepts donations to support its Community Investment Funds and other discretionary grant cycles. For more information about these programs and initiatives and to make a donation, visit [www.cfnova.org/our-programs](http://www.cfnova.org/our-programs).

**About the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia:**

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia is a public charity that grows philanthropy to help meet the most critical needs of the community. Comprised of giving circles, donor advised funds, community investment funds and scholarship funds, the Community Foundation engages donors and grantees in building the Northern Virginia community, and engages in research to assess the region's critical needs.

During FY2014, the Community Foundation:

- Awarded \$3.7 million in grants to nonprofits, interfaith groups and schools addressing critical community needs
- Awarded \$225,000 in scholarships to graduating high school seniors in our region
- Reported approximately \$35 million in philanthropic funds established by individual and corporate donors.

Find more information at [www.cfnova.org](http://www.cfnova.org).

####