



CHO Newsletter

Serving DUNN LORING, MERRIFIELD, OAKTON & VIENNA areas

Organized in 1969 and supported by churches, civic organizations, and individuals, CHO - The Committee for Helping Others - provides simple, loving charity to persons in need of goods and services which they are unable to provide for themselves or obtain from government services.

November 2017

THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, OLLIE FOWLER:

Wow, what a year for natural disasters in this country and nearby! First, the incredible destruction in Houston and the Gulf Coast caused by Hurricane Harvey. Then the calamitous impact of three hurricanes close together on Florida, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. As if that wasn't enough, our neighbors to the South in Mexico suffered through three, not one, but three earthquakes. Then, I hear on the news that the temperature in Los Angeles was over 100 degrees for one of the World Series Games, despite the fact it's the end of October. This has never happened before in L.A., according to the meteorologist.

Now, I'm the first to admit I'm not a climate scientist, and therefore have no facts to support arguments on either side of the climate change issue. But, I do know that these disasters have ruined the lives of thousands and thousands of people who lost all their material possessions; homes, memorabilia, etc.

These disasters, in fact, created a huge homeless population who need help to restore their lives to something resembling normalcy. The first responders were quick to react to these problems, and we should salute them for their efforts, despite the fact many of them lost their homes too.

The churches in all these areas always have a big impact by opening their doors to provide shelter and basic needs. The local and state governments are doing everything they can to aid this effort, but the big burden will fall on the Federal Government.

You know, these upcoming months are times when we all look inward to see what charities we can support. I suggest we look for charities that can have a direct impact on the lives of the people mentioned above. I'm sure our hearts go out to them in sympathy, but it would be great if we opened our pocketbooks as well.

I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving (we sure have much to be thankful for) and a happy Christmas holiday.

Ollie

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To Contact CHO:

Website:

www.cho-va.com

Email:

cho@cho-va.com

Phone:

202-681-5279 (Furniture)

703-679-8966 (Clothes)

703-281-7614 (All Other Services)

*Sewing the Community
1969-2017*

Committee for Helping Others

P.O. Box 233 • Vienna, Virginia 22183



CHO received a generous donation accompanied by this note:

“Please accept this donation in honor of Peg Boag. Peg was among the early group of volunteers who fostered the emergency services project. She has devoted much effort and skill in developing the program to its current position.”

Mark Your Calendars: Nov. 21 Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

This year's Thanksgiving Interfaith Service, hosted by the Vienna Baptist Church, will be held on Tuesday, November 21, at 7:30.

Transitions

The CHO Board has lost an indefatigable volunteer in **Cynthia Garner**, who died last June. She began work with CHO setting up the Christmas list, and as the 2010 Transportation Chair. At the time of her death, she was serving as Assistant Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary, as well as our Registered Agent, holding all three positions simultaneously. We sorely miss her contributions and her presence.

CHO stalwart **Bryan Troutman** will be moving to the Maryland area to be closer to his children and grandchildren, and with that move, will step down from his position as Treasurer of CHO and CHO Board member. A treasurer for any nonprofit has a demanding job, but the CHO Treasurer takes on even more. Responding to requests from the emergency services team, the CHO Treasurer prepares and mails checks for rent, utility and medical bills, usually daily - no small feat! Bryan has served as Treasurer for six years, and before that in various other capacities.

CHO has been fortunate to find a new Treasurer, **Randy Gressang**. Among other accomplishments Randy is a member of VPC, a former deacon at First Presbyterian Church in Fairborn, Ohio, a retired Air Force officer, and a resident of Vienna for over 23 years. Welcome Randy !

N E E D S

The CHO Food Closet needs soap, dishwashing detergent (small bottles) canned soup and fruit, tomato sauce and tuna fish. We can also use diapers, sizes 5 and 6. Please call the main CHO phone number, 703-281-7614, to make an appointment to drop off food.

The Northeast Vienna Citizens Association is sponsoring a food drive for CHO from November 1 through December 31. Food and clothing donations can be dropped off at various sites around Vienna: the Patrick Henry Library, Vienna Town Center (127 Center Street), Bikes of Vienna (128-A Maple Ave., NW), Caffe Amouri (107 Church Street NE), Evolution Fitness (216 Dominion Road NE), Doctors Covel, Stack & Henon (120 Beulah Road), SourceCore (144 Church St. NW #102), and the Vienna Arts Society (115 Pleasant St. NW).

The CHO Clothes Closet needs winter clothing for men, women and children. Winter jackets in all sizes are our greatest need. Please visit our website for other current needs. If any organizations are sponsoring extended clothing drives, we would appreciate it if you would consider delivering some of your contributions part way through the drive, as the need for clothing is most urgent this month. The Closet is open to receive deliveries at the VPC Condos on Park Street on Monday mornings, or you can make an appointment by calling the Clothes Closet number, 703-679-8966. Because of space limits, we can only accept winter clothing at this time.

The CHO Furniture Program will not be accepting donations during November and December so its volunteers can concentrate on the bike drive.

E V E N T S

Day to Serve

CHO was among the beneficiaries of the annual Day to Serve events on September 16. Our food closet was blessed with a tremendous contribution of tomato sauce, laundry detergent, cooking oil, diapers and other needed goods. Handypersons provided a needed facelift to our furniture closet, and our Clothes Closet received many boxes of donated clothes. Many thanks to those who participated - the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Oakton United Methodist Church, and Oakton Church of the Brethren who hosted the event.

Light of Unity Festival

CHO was honored to play a small role in the Light of Unity Festival held on October 22 by the Baha'is of Vienna Virginia to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the birth of their founder. The festival included a concert, educational and children's activities, as well as exhibits on various topics, including SERVICE, at which CHO participated.

Meeting with Fairfax County Coordinated Services

Last May, representatives from CHO's Emergency Services, Food Closet and Clothes Closet met with employees of Fairfax County Coordinated Services. Coordinated Services screens and refers clients to CHO's emergency services team almost daily. The meeting gave CHO volunteers the opportunity to meet "face to face" those individuals with whom they have partnered by telephone, and allowed CHO volunteers an opportunity to describe the work of our Food and Clothes Closets.

Rita's Gelato

On September 30, Rita's Gelato offered its premises to allow CHO to collect donations of cash and cooking oil, snacks and other needed items at the Grand Opening of *Rita's of Vienna* on Church Street. Many thanks to our new neighbor !



Day To Serve volunteers working hard



CHO volunteer Holly Dooley discusses CHO's work at the Baha'i Faith Festival



CHO hosts Fairfax County's Coordinated Services



Getting ready to enjoy some Rita's Gelato

Annual Committee Reports

The reports for each of the Committee for Helping Others (CHO) subcommittees for the July 2016 through June 2017 fiscal year follow, with CHO's Annual Report at the end of this Newsletter. The aid provided includes, but is not limited to:

EMERGENCY SERVICES: Supplies aid to individuals and families in meeting emergency rent, fuel, utility, dental, and medical bills and other miscellaneous aid.

- During the last fiscal year, 126 utility bills, 258 rent and mortgage bills, 17 medical bills, and 20 miscellaneous bills were paid, resulting in 421 bills paid, totaling \$100,634.

FOOD CLOSET: Distributes food and food certificates primarily to persons and families requiring immediate assistance. In addition, Christmas food certificates are distributed.

- In this reporting period, 1,006 families (3,599 people) were helped; this includes the families that were helped as part of CHO's annual Christmas program.

FURNITURE: Provides pick up of donated furniture and distribution to families in need.

- During this reporting period, we distributed approximately \$9,425.00 worth of household furnishings and appliances to families and individuals in need.

CLOTHES CLOSET: Collects and distributes clothing to the needy.

- During the 2016 - 2017 season, the CHO Clothes Closet served 643 families (1935 individuals) during our regular hours. A conservative estimate is that we provided three and a half tons of clothing to clients this season. Volunteers spent 522.5 hours serving clients. Note that estimates do not include clients served or hours volunteered outside of normal operational hours.

MEALS ON WHEELS: Provides meal deliveries from Vienna Presbyterian Church to persons having difficulty preparing their own food.

- During this reporting period, approximately 6,286 meals were delivered, with meals for six days a week, including Saturdays.

CHO Christmas Store Needs Your Help!

The **2017 Christmas Store** will be open for business on Saturday, December 9, at Vienna Presbyterian Church.

Volunteers are both necessary and welcome on both Friday, December 8, 8:30 am to noon, to help set up, and on Saturday, December 9, from 9 to 11 am to help take clients through the store. You can sign up for times on either or both days. This is a great way to get to know CHO and its volunteers.

CHO will be accepting donations of new unwrapped gifts for young children, and gift cards for teens, as well as food gift certificates from Giant and Safeway. We also will be accepting new or like new jackets and coats. Please donate clothes as soon as possible so they can be sorted before the Christmas Store. Clothing and other donations can be dropped at the CHO Clothes Closet at Vienna Court Condos, 133 Park Street NE, across from the Vienna Presbyterian Church, any Monday morning or by appointment.

If you have questions, or to help with donations or volunteer for the event, please call [703-281-7614](tel:703-281-7614); [leave a message in Box # 1.](#)

The "bike distribution program" that also occurs on December 9 at Vienna Presbyterian has become very popular, and can use your help to continue its success. New or gently used bikes can be dropped off on Saturday, November 11th and Saturday, November 25th, between 9 am to noon, at Marco Polo restaurant, 245 Maple Ave. West, Antioch Christian Church, 1860 Beulah Road, and at Vienna Presbyterian parking lot (Mill Street entrance). If you have questions about the bike program, or can volunteer to clean or collect, please contact danlarkins@verizon.net.

Many thanks in advance for all that our volunteers and donors do to make the holiday season a happier one for those who are less fortunate.



GET TO KNOW OUR CHO INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Along with VPC, Navy Federal Credit Union has been an ardent supporter of CHO for many years. Founded in 1933, NFCU has grown from 7 members to over 7 million, and is now the largest Credit Union in the world. With around \$82 billion in assets, \$62 billion of which are loans to members, we are thrilled to have them partner with CHO.

On September 30, 2017, our chairman Ollie Fowler and some other CHO friends participated in Navy Federal's annual 5K. With 675 runners and walkers navigating the streets of Vienna for 3 miles, we were blessed with good weather, and even greater generosity from NFCU. This year's race was the 25th annual 5K, and thanks to NFCU's hard work in preparing for the event, CHO receives around \$20,000 in proceeds each year. Ollie extends a special thanks to the Fitness Center at Navy Federal, the wonderful staff, which does most of the work preparing for the race, and of course, to the participants who make it all possible. On Oct. 1, 2017, one day after the 5K, Navy Federal conducted their 3rd Annual *Virtual 5k*, with all proceeds again going to CHO.

But Navy Federal's support extends beyond these two events. Each year, NFCU and its members get into the Holiday Spirit by collecting toys for the Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots Foundation. This event has taken place for over 20 years, and close to 20,000 toys have been collected. Each year they team up with Operation Homefront to provide meal kits (turkey, gravy, cranberry sauce, stuffing, etc.) to military families for Christmas dinners. They also have an Adopt a Senior campaign in Pensacola, Florida to provide blankets, microwaves, vacuums, etc. to needy senior citizens, and make the holidays for needy families more enjoyable by providing them with everything from bicycles to toys in this same Florida area. They support the Capital Area Food Bank with food donations, and fill stockings with small gifts to help new military recruits. And finally, they have a Dollars for Doers effort each year to provide monetary grants of \$1,000 to the charitable organization of an employee's choice. Locally, NFCU also supports the Town of Vienna, the Shepherd Center, and other local charities.

Isn't this the kind of company you'd love to work for? They are very effective in managing resources and providing great benefits to employees and members, but at the same time they understand the importance of giving back. We truly enjoy our partnership with the people of Navy Federal; they have a big heart for helping the communities they serve. CHO and our beneficiaries are blessed to have them as a partner.



Participants in 2017's 5K to support CHO and our beneficiaries; middle picture shows CHO's Peg Boag and her daughter, Jean Reese.



CHO's President Ollie Fowler speaks at the 25th annual Navy Federal Credit Union 5K Run/Walk, benefitting CHO's mission and ministries.

NOTICES:

DONATION ADDRESS: Please send donations ONLY to CHO's post office box (P.O. Box 233, Vienna, VA 22183). DO NOT send donations to any other address that may have been provided to you. Thank you!

PAPERLESS NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION: If you no longer wish to receive a paper copy of the CHO Newsletter by regular mail, please email us at cho@cho-va.com or leave a message on the CHO phone line 703-281-7614 letting us know that you'd like an email copy instead. The Newsletter is issued twice a year, usually in May and November. Shortly after going into the mail, a PDF version is available at our website www.cho-va.com.

CHO TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT 06302017

	BALANCE	BALANCE	INCREASE OR
<u>Bank Accounts</u>	<u>7/1/2016</u>	<u>6/30/2017</u>	<u>DECREASE</u>
Checking	\$87,862.56	\$94,457.45	\$6,594.89
EMERGENCY FUND	\$21,177.12	\$21,185.97	\$8.85
MORELAND 2	\$87,446.46	\$84,885.02	\$2,561.44
TOTAL Bank Accounts	\$196,486.14	\$200,528.44	\$4,042.30

CONTRIBUTIONS

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

VIENNA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S CENTER	\$180.00		
VIENNA PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN	\$900.00		
VPC SWATT TEAM	\$683.33		
WESTMINSTER PRESB RETIREMENT COMM	\$50.00		
WOMEN OF HOLY COMFORTER CHURCH	\$1,500.00		
WOMEN OF OLG	\$200.51		
TOTAL CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS		\$3,513.84	

CHURCHES

ANDREW CHAPEL	\$800.00		
ANTIOCH CHRISTIAN	\$500.00		
CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER	\$1,710.00		
CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS	\$1,000.00		
EMMANUEL LUTHERAN	\$4,320.00		
EMMAUS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST	\$500.00		
EPIPHANY METHODIST	\$1,200.00		
NO. Va PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH	\$300.00		
OAKTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN	\$631.13		
PROVIDENCE BAPTIST	\$645.00		
ST. MARK'S	\$4,000.00		
VIENNA BAPTIST CHURCH	\$2,800.00		
VIENNA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	\$23,023.00		
TOTAL CHURCHES		\$41,429.13	

INDIVIDUALS

INDIVIDUALS, EXXON-MOBILE EMPLOYEES		\$1,000.00	
INTEREST CHECKING		\$6.13	
INTEREST EMERGENCY FUND		\$11.04	
INTEREST MORELAND		\$20.47	

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

AMAZONSMILE	\$15.61		
AT&T EMPLOYEE GIVING	\$40.00		
BUYCHIMES	\$500.00		
CROP WALK	\$9,142.34		
EXXON-MOBIL CORPORATION	\$2,000.00		
GOLDEN GIRLS	\$1,080.00		
LEDO PIZZA	\$325.00		
MEEKINS SCHOOL	\$46.60		
NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION	\$20,000.00		
NE VIENNA CITIZENS ASSOC	\$300.00		
NORTHERN VA. MODEL RAILROADERS	\$150.00		
SHEPHERDS CENTER OF OAKTON	\$1,127.00		
TOWN OF VIENNA	\$1,500.00		
VERIZON FOUNDATION	\$50.00		
TOTAL OTHER ORGANIZATIONS		\$36,676.55	

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS

\$126,176.09

DISBURSEMENTS

ADMINISTRATION		
BANK FEE	\$537.39	
BROCHURES	\$248.21	
BROCHURES AND NEWSLETTERS	\$1,232.14	
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DUES	\$150.00	
CHECK PRINTING	\$213.04	
CHO Telephone	\$813.67	
INSURANCE	\$2,078.91	
POSTAGE	\$200.00	
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION		\$5,473.36
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM		\$2,881.86
CLOTHES CLOSET		\$847.52
FOOD		
FOOD/ SUPPLIES	\$134.01	
TOTAL FOOD		\$134.01
FURNITURE PROGRAM		\$66.76
DIESEL FUEL	\$55.92	
PROP. TAX	\$578.98	
TRUCK INSURANCE	\$1,312.00	
TRUCK REPAIR	\$154.21	
TOTAL FURNITURE PROGRAM		\$2,167.87
MEDICAL		\$3,480.19
MISCELLANEOUS ASS'T		
AUTO REPAIR	\$635.00	
CITIZEN APPLICATION	\$500.00	
DENTAL BILL	\$1,350.00	
GASOLINE	\$25.00	
LOAN PAYMENT	\$1,100.00	
STORAGE FEE	\$226.00	
TAXI VOUCHERS	\$230.00	
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS ASS'T		\$4,066.00
RENTAL ASS'T		\$72,717.38
UTILITY ASS'T		
ELECTRIC	\$22,812.99	
FUEL OIL	\$1,969.97	
GAS	\$2,019.54	
WATER	\$3,563.10	
TOTAL UTILITY ASS'T		\$30,365.60
TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS		<u>\$122,133.79</u>

The amount described as the "Moreland Fund" was left to CHO as an endowment by one of our co-founders, Dan Moreland. Mr. Moreland was very specific as to the use of these funds. For that reason, this endowment cannot be and is not considered part of CHO's day to day or emergency operations account.

**C.H.O.
P.O. BOX 233
VIENNA, VA
22183**

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Yes, I'd like to support CHO. Enclosed is
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CHO
November 2017
Committee for
Helping Others



Serving Vienna, Oakton,
Merrifield, and Dunn Loring

