



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022

Supporting the DUNN LORING, MERRIFIELD, OAKTON & VIENNA Areas

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

Chairman's Note

Like most of you, we at CHO have a lot going on right now. For us, our big concern continues to be space. We recently received an extension on our current space until at least the summer of next year, but it looks to be the last one. I have been encouraged working with some member churches and others to see if there is some way they can help. Nothing yet, but I'm hopeful.

There are some happy developments to report too. First, we are so glad that our Christmas program will be back in person this year. While on that subject, I'd like to highlight our annual bike drive for which we could use a few more bikes. Finally, a new church has been planted in Vienna and they chose to support CHO as one of their first projects; see more in this newsletter. All great things.

As we go into the holidays I am feeling thankful, and I want to say thank you to all of you, our wonderful supporters, who allow CHO to continue to help those in need in our community. And I wish you all a wonderful holiday season.

Todd

CHO Highlighted on News4



On October 27, CHO's Rebecca Huffman appeared t of NBC's News4 This Morning. The segment highlighted CHO's work with pictures of its volunteers, our food and clothes closets, and the Christmas Store, and focused on our need to find a new home.

NBC's Molette Green explained that "the clock is ticking" as CHO has a hard deadline to find new space for its food and clothing banks serving its clients, most of whom "have jobs that barely cover their basic needs." Rebecca elaborated that [CHO serves] "what we call the hidden poverty in our relatively affluent community." Ms. Green signed off by adding: "[w]e know someone will step up" to help.

The interview is at our website – cho-va.com, which also has a document detailing what we would need to replace our current 950-square foot space. We appreciate the exposure from NBC News and encourage anyone who has suggestions to contact us at facility@cho-va.com.

OUR INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS: HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Hope United Methodist Church began serving Vienna and its immediate surroundings in July last year. The church is a satellite campus of Ghana Wesley UMC in Woodbridge. Hope UMC's pastor Samuel Addo Donkoh, pictured above, explained that the Vienna church was established with the vision to be "a multicultural church with a discipleship culture," a congregation that hopes to bring the life-changing hope of Jesus Christ to the community of Vienna.

Hope UMC is located at 1014 Country Club Drive NE, Vienna, the property formerly occupied by Epiphany UMC. Its main service is on Sundays from 9:30-11 a.m.; there is also a children's service. Bible Study is on Thursdays from 8 to 9 p.m. and a prayer meeting is held on Friday from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Pastor Samuel wants the church to engage in outreach and be responsive to the community's needs through partnerships with existing nonprofits like CHO, the Shepherd's Center, the Lamb Center, Northern Virginia Family Services, and others. The very first organized activity of Hope UMC was a food drive for CHO! Pastor Samuel hopes to have additional community-building events such as food and clothing drives. Right now they also offer their space for the Boy Scout and Girl Scout meetings.

"Our doors are open," says Pastor Samuel, and he welcomes new members and volunteers. We at CHO are delighted to welcome Hope UMC to our community.

CHRISTMAS STORE REOPENS IN PERSON BIKE DRIVE STILL SEEKING BIKES

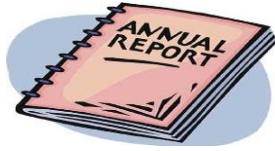
CHO's Christmas Store is again open in-person on Saturday December 10!

You can help. To help provide food and gifts for needy families, please deliver new toys for kids from infant thru 8, gift cards for those 9-18, and food cards to Vienna Presbyterian Church on Friday, December 9, 9:30-noon, where we will be setting up our Christmas Store. We also need help on the day of the event. Call 703-281-7614 box # 1 to volunteer to help with the setup or to serve as an escort on the morning of Saturday December 10, or call us to make other arrangements for donations. To view a wonderful list of toy suggestions, see our website - cho-va.com - and go to "Services" at the top of the page and then dropdown to Christmas Store.



Bikes. CHO is once again collecting gently used and new bikes this holiday season. We are focusing this year on bikes for older children and adults who need transportation to school and work. Drop your bike off (1) in the parking lot of Antioch Christian Church, 1860 Beulah Rd., or (2) in the driveway of 317 Church St. NE, or (3) at 218 Elmar Dr. SE, before November 15.

Thanks for helping make holidays happier for our neighbors!



For FY ending 6/30/2022. Details on CHO's finances can be found on page 4. Here is a summary.

FOOD CLOSET: The Food Closet distributes basic food and household supplies collected from our community; we take referrals from Fairfax County, area churches, and individuals. During the recent fiscal year, approximately 552 families (about 2094 people) were helped. In addition to nonperishable food and household items, we also provided about \$4,375 of grocery cards.

FURNITURE: The CHO truck is used to pick up donated furniture. Furniture distribution is at the Vienna Town Yard on the second and fourth Saturday of the month, at 8 AM on a first-come, first-served basis. Beds, dressers, sofas/chairs, desks, and tables are the most wanted items. We also provide bikes when available and needed.

CLOTHES CLOSET: Over a dozen regular and numerous additional volunteers at the Clothes Closet collect and distribute clothing and other small items. The Closet is open Monday from 9:30-12 and by appointment.

EMERGENCY SERVICES: In this fiscal year approximately \$176,000 was spent for emergency relief to about 470 households, not including the CARES and Relief Act aid that CHO distributed in partnership with Fairfax County. About 70% of the funds were for rent relief, 23% for utilities, and the rest for medical and other miscellaneous expenses.

FALL ACTIVITIES

CROP WALK: This year's CROP Walk took to the streets of Vienna on a rainy Sunday Nov. 2, and raised approximately \$16,000 for local and international hunger relief efforts. The lead organizer was Lisa Hechtman of Emmaus UCC. Walter Alcorn from the Fairfax Board of Supervisors participated, as well as Elder Robert Faison from Emmaus and Reverend Jon Strand from the Church of the Holy Comforter. One-fourth of the amount raised will be spent locally via CHO and the rest is for Church World Services (CWS), a nonprofit that provides food security and education.

NAVY FEDERAL 5K

The weather was better for the Navy Federal 5K, held on November 8, whose proceeds benefit CHO.



VIENNA PRESBYTERIAN HARVEST

FESTIVAL: The VPC Harvest Festival was a family affair of fellowship and a chance to expose members to the work of two organizations - CHO, and Belong! - in a fun manner. CHO volunteers demonstrated samples of grocery bags prepared by the Food Closet, and participants were asked to guess the cost of certain items and to estimate how many people could be fed by the amount provided. This was a good lesson in the cost of food and other household supplies, like laundry soap. There was a coat collection for CHO as well. We hope that this event exposes more of our community to the issues of food insecurity.

Many thanks to all who have been fundraising and showcasing CHO this fall!

EMAIL NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION: If you wish to receive a copy of the newsletter by email rather than paper, let us know by emailing us at cho@cho-va.com. *Email copies help save us printing and postage costs and are in **color!***

DONATION ADDRESS: Please send donations to CHO's Post Office Box - P.O. Box 233, Vienna VA.22183. Do not send donations to any other address provided to you. You can also give online at cho-va.com.

CHO FINANCIAL REPORT FY 07/01/2021 TO 06/30/2022

Assets	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
Bank Accounts	290,210	203,197
Gift Cards	5,706	9,130
Moreland Fund	84,477	83,415
Peg Boag Fund	4,494	5,097
	384,887	300,839
 Revenue & Expenditures		FY 2022
Revenue		
Donations		133,584
Individuals		63,704
Churches		25,250
Other		16,502
Interest		32
Total Revenue		239,072
Expenditures		
Administrative costs		18,368
Furniture program truck expenses		3,145
Direct Assistance to those in need		
Food		11,720
Utilities		41,627
Medical bills		3,173
Rental Assistance		221,350
Other		23,739
		301,610
Total Expenditures		323,123
Change in net assets		(84,051)

**CHO
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Yes, I'd like to support CHO. Enclosed is my check for \$_____

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