

# Loudoun nonprofits awarded over \$150,000 in United Way grants

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Loudoun nonprofits awarded over \$150,000 in United Way Grants**

*15 Loudoun County Charities Receive Much-Needed Funds  
to Continue Work in Education, Health and Financial Stability*

**LEESBURG, VA, January 20, 2012** – Today, United Way of the National Capital Area (United Way NCA) announced that it is awarding 18 grants totaling \$157,860 to 15 member organizations based in the County. A quarter of the funds were generated from the Annual Loudoun County Golf Classic, sponsored by the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority and other local businesses. The remaining funds came through designations to the Loudoun County Community Impact Fund in United Way NCA's annual workplace giving campaign. Over \$1.75 million was raised through Community Impact Funds in United Way NCA's eight regions thanks to the support of employees from over 1,000 corporations, educational institutions and municipalities in the region. Each of the grants directly addresses United Way NCA's focus areas of education, health and financial stability.

Specifically, the list of Loudoun County grantees include: Ayuda, Every Citizen Has Opportunities (ECHOworks), Good Shepherd Alliance, Help for Others, Just Neighbors Ministry, Legal Services of Northern Virginia (LAWS), Lions Club of Sterling Charities, Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter, Loudoun Interfaith Relief, Loudoun Literacy Council, Loudoun Volunteer Caregivers, Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry, Northern Virginia Dental Clinic, Northern Virginia

Family Service, and Volunteers of America Chesapeake.

“This is a great way to start off the year,” said Bill Hanbury, President and CEO, United Way NCA. “These funds will have a direct and positive impact on each of these organizations. The contributions from the Loudoun County community demonstrate a commitment to joining together to ensure that programs in education, health, and financial stability can continue their vital work.”

Bonnie Inman, Executive Director of Loudoun Interfaith Relief, an emergency food pantry, called their grant essential. “We rely heavily on it and will use it to keep our doors open.” Inman added, “Everyone’s giving patterns have been challenged in the past few years. I encourage everyone to continue to support the United Way through employee contribution programs.”

Another recipient is Every Citizen Has Opportunities (ECHOworks), which provides daily transportation, training and support for persons with disabilities to work at local businesses. ECHOworks Chief Financial Officer Mariellen Hagy said the two grants they are receiving will ensure a consistent funding stream for the many people they serve. “The grants we received will serve as a safety net,” said Hagy.

All donors to United Way of the National Capital Area have the option of directing their pledge to the Community Impact Fund in one of United Way NCA’s eight regions including Alexandria, Arlington, District of Columbia, Fairfax/Falls Church, Loudoun, Montgomery, Prince George’s and Prince William counties. These funds help United Way solve critical challenges facing its communities that no one person, nonprofit, or company can address alone. In total, United Way NCA raises more than \$30 million each year to address the needs of the community and in the past five years has raised and dispersed more than \$142 million across the Washington Region.

Each year, United Way NCA solicits funding proposals from its member nonprofit organizations for specific programs and work in these communities. This year, Loudoun member organizations submitted 33 proposals totaling \$568,640. Funding decisions are made by a volunteer, citizen-led task force that work together with area nonprofits, governments, and business leaders to determine where there are gaps in services and where the funds will do the most good.

Region-wide, United Way NCA awarded a total of 256 grants to more than 160 member organizations. All of the grants awarded fall in one of United Way NCA’s three community impact areas of Education, Financial Stability and Health. Region wide, there were 72 programs funded in Education, 100 in Health and 84 in Financial Stability.

## About United Way of the National Capital Area

Focusing on the critical areas of education, financial stability and health, United Way of the National Capital Area and its nonprofit members not only provide immediate relief of social problems affecting the community, but also works to alleviate the underlying causes of these issues. Serving the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, and Montgomery and Prince George's Counties for more than 35 years, United Way of the National Capital Area works to inspire acts of caring, deliver hope and improve lives. For more information about United Way of the National Capital Area, visit [www.unitedwaynca.org](http://www.unitedwaynca.org).

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