

CHO Newsletter

Serving DUNN LORING, MERRIFIELD, OAKTON & VIENNA areas

Organized in 1969 and supported by churches, civic organizations, businesses, & 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.

May 2015

George's Corner:

What is your email address, please? CHO spends money mailing our semi-annual Newsletter to you. We would rather spend those dollars helping with the needs of the people CHO serves today. I suspect you would agree. We need your email address and your OK to provide our Newsletters, and other limited correspondence, to you electronically. My email is gwb0745@gmail.com. Please let me know what your email address is and that, in the future, it will be OK to correspond with you electronically rather than through the Postal Service. I thank you, and CHO's clients do, too.

Thank you, the unsung, who just keep helping. These are some of the seldom mentioned people and organizations (not specifically mentioned in the November 2014 Newsletter) who quietly just keep on "keeping on" with delivering food, clothes, or emergency services, truck driving, furniture moving, and delivering Meals on Wheels. **Food** -- Jan Beatey, Diane Maroney, Sonia Thomsen, Adele Hubbard. **Clothes** -- Karen Thompson, Joann Bingham, Amy Palmer, Sonia Thompson, Adele Hubbard, Pat Murray, Barbara Cox, Ann Wickersham, Cecilia Sanbrailo, Marilee Davies, Pixie Biddle, Prudy Traut, Nancy Cartier. **Emergency Services** -- St. Vincent de Paul of OLG, Missionary Society of 1st Baptist, AGAPE of VPC. **Truck drivers and some of the Helpers** -- John Kliewer, George and Susan High, Dan Larkins, James Burggraaf, Ed Porter, Karl Wilkerson, Charles Sullivan, Greg Rahal, Randall Gressang, Chester Phillips, Don Slade, Scott Butler, Bob McCahill, Tom Fraim, Louis Gaertner, Art Williams, John Potts, Billy Thompson, Erik Kleiner, Steve Park, Bruce Munro. **Meals on Wheels (MOW)**. -- Reggie Prestwood, the Dunns, Diane Soresen, Kay Merrell, the Wiggs, Elaine Soya, Susan Baker, Tom Robertson, Larry Mangin, the Bingham, Jesse Tanner, Judi Silverman, Renee Hogan, Chrissy Warner, Laurie Stevens, George Bishop, the Dennises, Sidney Clarke, Betsy Roberts, Indra Param, Gail Bergquist, Ralph Johnson, Marilyn Most, and Pam Weiss.

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Contact CHO:

Website:

www.cho-va.com

Email:

cho@cho-va.com

Phone:

**202-681-5279 (Furniture)
703-281-7614 (All Other
Services)**

*Serving the Community
1969-2015*

George's Corner, continued

Gradual Improvements:

See the newer truck, now with signage: Thanks to Clay Downing for your work on April 16 - and it looks good, too.

Google Voice makes the furniture donation/pick-up process almost magical. Four of us, instead of Dan Larkins by himself, are now involved in scheduling pick-ups and creating route sheets for our 2nd and 4th Saturday morning pick-ups. Google Voice records calls and enables us to listen to and return phone calls of donors using our home computer and personal cell phone whenever we are available to do so. The sharing of duties among 4 of us now obviously diminishes Dan's previous burden which still involves trips to the warehouses on Saturday mornings and throughout the week to make unscheduled deliveries or pick-ups.

We are also thankful for the additional drivers and helpers that CHO has picked up in recent months.

(Continued in next column)

George's Corner, continued

And thanks be to He who heals for giving Dan back to CHO.

A "Donate Here" Capability on the CHO Web Site. Yes, at www.cho-va.com you can now donate to CHO with your credit card or mobile device instead of with a check. Try it out. I did to test it out today. It works fine. You can set up a regular donation schedule or do it one time. You receive detailed feedback in an immediate email telling you what happened, what credit card was used, how much you gave, to whom you gave, and how to check your donation history.

Thanks to the people who researched our options, those who set up the site, and to VANCO which has a secure system to safeguard your confidential financial information.

NOTICE!! 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!

N E E D S

The CHO Furniture Program's most frequently requested items continue to be beds -- queen and full-size -- followed, more or less in order, by dressers, sofas, and table and chair sets. We are generally not able to accept king-size beds, sofa beds, living room chairs, and any items that are broken, damaged or excessively worn. We can occasionally accept refrigerators and electric washers and dryers if they are in good working condition. To arrange a pickup of items that you would like to donate, please call the Furniture Program phone number: (202) 681-5279.

In addition, the **CHO Furniture Program** continues looking for volunteers to drive its furniture truck (see picture elsewhere in this Newsletter). A commercial driver's license (CDL) is no longer required! Volunteers are asked to drive 4 or 5 times a year on a Saturday morning. *Drivers do not need to carry furniture; other volunteers are available to do that.* Learn more about the Furniture Program at <http://tinyurl.com/CHOfurniture> and learn more about CHO at <http://cho-va.com>. To volunteer for the furniture program, contact Dan Larkins at danlarkins@verizon.net.

The CHO Food Closet continues to see heavy demand. Current needs include canned tuna/salmon, spaghetti sauce, cooking oil, 2 lb. bags of white rice, jelly, pancake mix and syrup, canned and dried fruit, and cereal. Currently our needs also include items not covered by the food stamp (SNAP) program including laundry detergent, dish soap, diapers sizes newborn, 4, 5, and 6 and toilet paper.

The Food Closet is located in the Vienna Presbyterian Church (VPC) Condo building at 133 Park Street (Vienna Courts), across Park Street from VPC. If you would like to donate, you can call the CHO phone number (703-281-7614) to make an appointment to drop off food or you can drop the food in the special donation box by the library in VPC. (Use the Park Street entrance). Please do not leave any donations outside of 133 Park Street.

The CHO Clothing Closet requests donations of clothing that match the current season as storage space for off-season clothing is limited. There has been an increased demand for clothing because of the economic downturn and so there is a greater need for donations, particularly for men's clothing and children's clothing (especially shoes). The Closet is open for donations every Monday morning during the "season" (see summer hours article elsewhere in this Newsletter), or you can make an appointment by calling the main CHO phone number, (703) 281-7614.

Furniture Program Summer Hours. The Furniture Program will continue its normal schedule throughout the summer. Pickups will be made on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. Please visit our website to see the types of items we can -- and cannot -- accept. We will continue to distribute furniture on our regular schedule and will respond to special needs and emergency requests as we learn of them.

Clothes Closet Summer Hours. The Clothes Closet's last open day for this season will be Monday, May 18. The Closet will reopen after Labor Day. In the interim, clothing will be available and donations accepted by appointment. To schedule an appointment, please email cho.clothes.closet@gmail.com or call (703) 679-8966.

CROP Walk News

The 2015 Vienna Crop Walk will be held on Sunday, October 18, again beginning on the Vienna Town Green. In case of rain on the Walk day, registration and closing will take place inside Vienna Presbyterian Church. It is hoped that the October date will help some of you who have had calendar conflicts at your churches for the November date. Also, the weather will be warmer and the days longer. Finally, World Food Day is October 16th every year, so this puts us much closer to that day. In addition to walkers, lots of volunteer helpers are needed on the Walk day. If you would like to serve on the steering committee for the Walk, please contact Betty Rahal (see details below).

The CROP Walk is a Church World Service fundraiser to fight hunger worldwide and in our own community. As in previous years, CHO will receive 25% of the proceeds of the 2015 Walk. Last year's CROP Walk featured about 150 walkers and contributions totaled \$33,081.00 of which CHO will receive \$8,270. **Wonderful!!** Incidentally, all in all over the last 10 years, the Vienna Crop Walk has raised about \$251,000, of which \$61,000 has gone to CHO.

An excellent Connection Newspaper article about the 2014 Walk can be viewed at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2014/nov/19/we-need-keep-our-children-fed/>. To have someone from the Walk Committee come to your church for an event, or to volunteer, please contact Betty Rahal at (703) 281-4032 or betty.rahall@verizon.net.

NOTICE. If you no longer wish to receive a paper copy of the CHO Newsletter by mail, please let us

know by email at cho@cho-va.com or leave a message on CHO's phone 703-281-7614. The Newsletter is issued twice a year. Shortly after going into the mail, a PDF version is available at our website www.cho-va.com.

CHO Activities:

FOOD CLOSET: The Food Closet distributes food and certificates primarily to persons and families requiring immediate assistance. It provides basic food items collected from our community and stored at the Condominium across Park Street from Vienna Presbyterian Church. In addition, Christmas food certificates are distributed and a Christmas "store" is organized to provide gifts for clients' children and clothing for the family. The Food Closet takes referrals from Fairfax County, area churches, and individuals.

FURNITURE: The Furniture Program picks up donations of gently used furniture, stores the items, and distributes them to families in need. For pickups and deliveries, volunteer drivers and helpers use their own vehicles and a truck donated by Fairfax County. The Town of Vienna provides us with a small storage facility at its Northside Property Yard.

EMERGENCY SERVICES: Emergency Services supplies aid to individuals and families in meeting emergency rent, fuel, utility, dental, and medical bills and other miscellaneous aid. It takes calls from churches, counties, and other referrers and takes immediate action, including coordination with adjacent helper organizations, working with our treasurer to pay bills directly, and/or arranging help from other CHO Programs

CLOTHES CLOSET: The Clothes Closet collects clothing and distributes it to the needy. It is located at 133 Park Street, across from Vienna Presbyterian Church. The Closet is open Monday mornings from 9:30 to noon during the school year. Donations are accepted every Monday. Clothing is distributed to clients on all except the first Monday of the month.

TRANSPORTATION: CHO's Transportation Program, which provides rides to clients for medical appointments, is currently suspended. We are referring all requests for rides to the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV). SCOV provides rides only to clients over age 50.

MEALS ON WHEELS (MOW): MOW provides meal deliveries to persons having difficulty preparing their own food. Food deliveries are made five days a week from Vienna Presbyterian Church.

Donations:

CHO annually receives donations totaling \$4,000.00 from the **ExxonMobil** Foundation's Volunteer Involvement Program (VIP). The VIP encourages volunteerism by ExxonMobil employees, retirees, and their family members by contributing to the organizations where they volunteer. In addition, CHO receives pledges directly from ExxonMobil employees through their ExxonMobil Employees' Favorite Charities campaign plus a donation from Exxon Mobil Corporation proportionate to those pledges. The income from these employee pledges is received throughout the year. **Thank you!**

The **Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna's** annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service took place on Tuesday, November 25, 2014. CHO receives half of the offering from the service. This year that amounted to over \$1,000.00! **Thank you!**

Other Donors. CHO receives financial support from a myriad of other churches, organizations, and private donors. While we never publicize information on private donors, we would like to recognize our ongoing loyal supporters. A huge thank you to all!

In addition to financial support, CHO receives donations of food and clothing from many organizations including: Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Club Phoenix, NEVCA, the Golden Girls softball team, Green Hedges School, Wolf Trap Elementary School, the ExxonMobil Spouses Club, Wesley United Methodist, Holy Cross, OLGC, Vienna Baptist, Emmaus United Church of Christ, the Mennonite Church, Jammin' Java, Epiphany United Methodist, Louise Archer Elementary School, the Town of Vienna employees, Cornerstone, Old Creek Elementary School, Supervisor Hudgin's coat drive, Vienna Presbyterian, Marshall Road Elementary School, and St. Mark Catholic Church.

Stuff the Bus. Thank you to everyone who donated food to CHO at the Stuff the Bus event held at the **Oakton Giant** on Saturday, January 31. Organized by the Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships, Stuff the Bus encourages shoppers to purchase extra grocery items for local food closets and place them in a **Fastran Bus** parked in the Giant parking lot. Rebecca and Carolyn spent the day overseeing the effort. We were completely staffed for the event by the Madison (HS) Volunteer Program. The volunteers were wonderful---they spread the word about CHO and what we do and helped us collect 36 boxes of food and \$511.84 in cash donations for food. They also accompanied us back to the Food Closet, helped unload the bus and unpack the boxes, all by 5:30 pm that evening. We also had help from two Fairfax County Human Services ladies who we work with during the year. They showed up unannounced to volunteer with us. This was an added bonus. The fellows who drive the Fastran buses were there all day and were also very helpful. They don't get paid for working this project. We had a lot of support from the shoppers and this turned out to be a very successful Neighborhood and Community project. **Thank you to all.**

NFCU Run/Walk. The 23rd Annual **Navy Federal Credit Union (NFCU) 5K Run/Walk** will take place on Saturday, October 3, 2015. You can find details at the race website: www.navyfederal5K.com.

Viva! Vienna! The **Rotary Club of Vienna** provides CHO with considerable financial support. The funds come primarily from their annual fundraiser, the **Viva! Vienna! Festival**. CHO has been the recipient of \$5000.00 each year since 2011! Please support this year's Festival which will take place on Memorial Day weekend, Saturday through Monday, May 23-25, 2015 on Church Street in Vienna. For more information on the Festival, please visit their website at <http://www.vivavienna.org/>. **Thank you to Rotary for their support!**

Online Donations. CHO now accepts online donations by credit card, direct transfer from a bank account, etc. Just log on to our website at www.cho-va.com and click on the "Donate Now!" Button.

Christmas Program Results

The 2014 CHO Christmas Program on December 13 at Vienna Presbyterian Church (VPC) was, as always, a huge success. Program Chair Carolyn Mysel wants to give special thanks to all of the volunteers who helped over the two-day period, both for the toy area set up in VPC's basement and the clothing area set up in the Great Hall. 139 families shopped at the CHO Christmas Store on December 13 and we had lots of toys for all the kids thanks to all of you getting the word out about our need. Social media saved the day for CHO. Your emails and Facebook postings brought us so many people happy to help us. Our community is wonderful! We would like to mention Sekas Homes and owner John Sekas for a generous donation to the Christmas Store and also The Vienna Inn and owner Marty Volk who put out a call for toys on Thursday and brought us a load on Friday. So many local churches got the word out and neighbors contacting neighbors -- it was terrific and really made our day. Again, thanks for helping us through an unexpected situation. Think of all the smiles you put on kids faces on Christmas morning when they opened their gifts and maybe, for the first time, they received something NEW that was all their own.

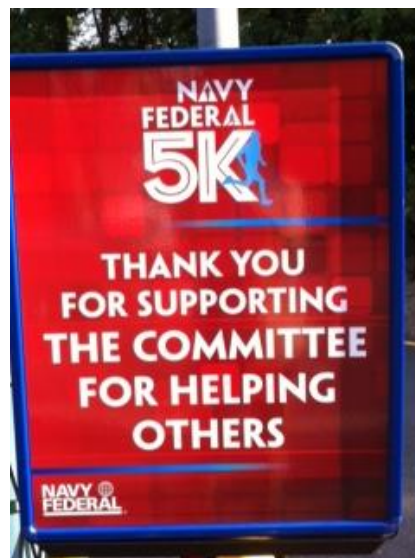
It wasn't our biggest year but it was big enough! In total, including families who could not attend the Store, we helped 229 families -- last year we helped 254. (Many of our families moved out of the area during the year.) We helped a total of 853 people -- last year we helped 1,072. We helped 441 children -- last year we helped 425. We had 18 families adopted -- last year we adopted 21 families. We had 140 bikes to give away -- last year we had between 60 and 80. We had 100 volunteers for the two days at the Store -- last year we had 125.

Now PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, for our Christmas Store 2015. Setup will take place on Friday, December 11.

New CHO Truck Gets A Paint Job

Isn't She Lovely? The picture below shows the handsome lettering which is now on three sides of our newer (2000) truck. As previously noted, CHO received the donation of the truck from Fairfax County last year. Clay Downing installed the lettering on it for us in April. He generously gave CHO a bargain price for his red and black vinyl work. MANY, MANY THANKS, CLAY!

If you or a friend have a need for signage of any sort, please remember: *SIGNS by Clay Downing*, 43114 Autumnwood Sq., Broadlands, VA 20148; www.signsbyclaydowning.com; 703-371-6828. CHO is most grateful.



CHO TREASURER'S 6 MONTH REPORT

JULY 1 THRU DECEMBER 31, 2014

Account	BALANCE <u>7/1/2014</u>	BALANCE <u>12/31/2014</u>	INCREASE OR (DECREASE)
Bank Accounts			
Checking	\$22,486.85	\$74,114.96	\$51,628.11
EMERGENCY FUND	\$21,155.94	\$21,161.22	\$5.28
MORELAND 2	\$88,997.98	<u>\$88,396.87</u>	<u>(\$601.11)</u>
TOTAL Bank Accounts	\$132,640.77	\$183,673.05	\$51,032.28

Category	<u>Checking</u>	<u>MORELAND 2</u>	<u>OVERALL TOTAL</u>
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RECEIPTS

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS			
VIENNA PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN	\$325.00		
WOMEN OF HOLY COMFORTER CHURCH	<u>\$1,500.00</u>		
TOTAL CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS		\$1,825.00	
CHURCHES			
ANTIOCH CHRISTIAN	\$500.00		
CHRIST CHURCH OF VIENNA	\$5,000.00		
CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER	\$2,500.00		
CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS	\$600.00		
EMMANUEL LUTHERAN	\$2,147.24		
EMMAUS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST	\$200.00		
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA	\$2,000.00		
MENNONITE	\$500.00		
NO. Va PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH	\$300.00		
OAKTON CHURCH OF TH BRETHREN	\$50.00		
PROVIDENCE BAPTIST	\$645.00		
VIENNA BAPTIST CHURCH	\$2,300.00		
VIENNA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	<u>\$14,313.00</u>		
TOTAL CHURCHES		\$31,055.24	
INDIVIDUALS		\$46,632.06	
INDIVIDUALS, EXXON-MOBILE EMPLOYEES		\$600.00	
INTEREST CHECKING		\$1.20	
INTEREST MORELAND2			<u>\$3.73</u>
OTHER ORGANIZATIONS			
AARP VIENNA CHAPTER #754	\$100.00		
AMERICA'S CHARITIES	\$1,926.63		
BODY GRACE	\$350.00		
CROP WALK	\$8,440.72		
EXXON-MOBIL CORPORATION	\$500.00		
GOLDEN GIRLS	\$1,125.00		
MADISON GIRLS LACROSSE TEAM	\$93.00		
NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION	\$20,000.00		
SEKAS HOMES	\$1,000.00		
SHEPHERDS CENTER OF OAKTON	\$1,039.50		
SMALL BUSINESS	\$250.00		
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SQD	\$250.00		
TOWN OF VIENNA	\$1,500.00		
TURNER, LEINS & GOLD LLC	\$100.00		
VIENNA QUILTERS UNLIMITED	\$100.00		
VIENNA WOMENS CLUB	<u>\$100.00</u>		
TOTAL OTHER ORGANIZATIONS		<u>\$36,874.85</u>	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$116,988.78	\$3.73

<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>CHECKING</u>	<u>MORELAND2</u>	<u>OVERALL TOTAL</u>
ADMINISTRATION			
BANK FEE	\$69.00		
BROCHURES AND NEWSLETTERS	\$489.57		
CHECK PRINTING	\$213.04	\$104.91	
CHO Telephone	\$221.98		
POSTAGE	\$192.00		
SUPPLIES	<u>\$147.97</u>		
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION		\$104.91	
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM		\$967.81	
CLOTHES CLOSET		\$354.00	
FURNITURE PROGRAM	\$540.96		
TRUCK INSURANCE	\$302.69		
TRUCK REPAIR	<u>\$3,088.23</u>		
TOTAL FURNITURE PROGRAM		\$3,931.88	
Insurance			
Insurance:Disability Insurance	<u>\$225.00</u>		
TOTAL Insurance		\$225.00	
MEDICAL		\$2,319.01	
MISCELLANEOUS ASS'T			
AUTO REPAIR	\$1,131.09		
DENTAL BILL	\$770.00		
FUNERAL	\$400.00		
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$100.00		
LOAN PAYMENT	\$1,100.00		
STORAGE FEE	\$283.40		
TAXI VOUCHERS	<u>\$180.00</u>		
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS ASS'T		\$3,964.49	
RENTAL ASS'T		\$33,247.89	\$300.00
UTILITY ASS'T			
ELECTRIC	\$13,840.16		\$199.93
FUEL OIL	\$200.00		
GAS	\$1,113.10		
PROPANE	\$250.00		
Water	<u>\$3,613.77</u>		
TOTAL UTILITY ASS'T		\$19,017.03	\$199.93
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		<u>\$65,360.67</u>	\$604.84
INTEREST - EMERGENCY FUND			<u>\$5.28</u>
OVERALL TOTAL		\$51,628.11	(\$601.11) \$51,032.28

	BALANCE	BALANCE	INCREASE OR
	<u>7/1/2014</u>	<u>12/31/2014</u>	(DECREASE)
MORELAND FUND	\$88,997.98	\$88,396.87	(\$601.11)

The amount described as "Moreland2 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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CHO

May 2015

The Committee for
Helping Others



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

I'd like to volunteer for:

My name and address are:

Send to CHO, PO Box 233, Vienna, VA 22183

Serving Vienna, Oakton,
Merrifield, and Dunn Loring