



# 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 2016

### George's Corner:

**A reminder:** It costs CHO approximately \$1,000 a year to print and mail the 2 Newsletters to you. Your willingness to receive the Newsletters by email would enable our Emergency Services folks to send 4 more \$250 checks to supplement some of your more needy neighbors' rent, utility, or doctor bills. The email version of the Newsletter is in COLOR, and those who opt for the email version will also receive more timely notices of our activities (*no more than once a quarter*).

If you no longer wish to receive a paper copy of the CHO Newsletter in May and November, please let us know at [cho@cho-va.com](mailto:cho@cho-va.com), or by leaving a message on the CHO phone line 703-281-7614 (*and don't forget to include your email address*). Shortly after going into the mail, a PDF version is available on our web site - [www.cho-va.com](http://www.cho-va.com).

### Did you know?

1. You can provide a financial donation to CHO on our web page ([cho-va.com](http://cho-va.com)) - see the **Donate now!** banner.
2. If you order stuff through [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), the use of "amazon smile" and designation of CHO as your chosen charity (see the [cho-va.com](http://cho-va.com) web site) will provide financial donations to CHO - doing so costs you nothing.
3. **You are invited to attend a CHO Board meeting** any time you like (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:30 PM at Vienna Presbyterian Church in room #205) to get a taste for what is going on and how you might help. Note that no meetings are held in July or August.

**Back to utility-infielding:** I leave the Board in June, but not CHO. I will continue to work with the furniture program and Meals on Wheels. I hope to work with Anne Moran and Sarah Munro to more effectively spread the word in various media regarding CHO's presence and needs in the community. I would also like to assist in creating more active CHO member-church liaisons.

*Thanks for the memories, and particularly your personal time, your clothes and food and furniture donations, and your financial support.*

### **IN THIS ISSUE**

- George's Corner
- Mark Your Calendars:
  - Viva Vienna
  - NFCU 5K Run/Walk
  - CROP Walk
- Needs
- Briefs:
  - Clothes Closet Summer Closing
  - Furniture Program Summer Schedule
- Thanks to our Donors
- CHO Activities
- Fundraising/Food Collection Events:
  - SCOV Interfaith Service
  - Whole Foods Day
  - Stuff the Bus
- Volunteer Award
- Christmas Program Report
- Semi-Annual Treasurer's Report

#### **Contact CHO:**

#### **Website:**

[www.cho-va.com](http://www.cho-va.com)

#### **Email:**

[cho@cho-va.com](mailto:cho@cho-va.com)

#### **Phone:**

**202-681-5279 (Furniture)**  
**703-679-8966 (Clothes)**  
**703-281-7614 (All Other Services)**

*Serving the Community  
1969-2016*

## May-October 2016 - Mark Your Calendars !

**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 28-30, 2016 on Church Street in Vienna. For more information on the Festival, which includes rides, entertainment, and opportunities to try favorite foods from local restaurants, a please visit their website at <http://www.vivavienna.org/>. Thank you to the Rotary for their support!

**NFCU Run/Walk.** The 24th Annual Navy Federal Credit Union (NFCU) 5K Run/Walk will take place on Saturday, October 4, 2016 at the Navy Federal Credit Union in Vienna. You can find details at the race website: [www.navyfederal5K.com](http://www.navyfederal5K.com).

## May-October 2016 - Mark Your Calendars !

**CROP Walk.** The 2016 Vienna Crop Walk will be held on Sunday, October 18, again beginning on the Vienna Town Green. Remember that World Food Day is October 16<sup>th</sup> 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, 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 2016 Walk. Last year's CROP Walk featured about 150 walkers and contributions totaled over \$35,000 of which CHO received \$8,337. **Fantastic!** Over the last 10 years, the Vienna Crop Walk has raised about \$280,000, of which almost \$70,000 has gone to CHO.

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](tel:7032814032) or [betty.rah@verizon.net](mailto:betty.rah@verizon.net).

## **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. 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](mailto:danlarkins@verizon.net).

The CHO Food Closet continues to see heavy demand. Current needs include white rice, elbow macaroni, spaghetti sauce, cooking oil, lentils, canned fruit, snacks and cereal, as well as diapers in all sizes.

The Food Closet is located in the Vienna Presbyterian Church (VPC) Condo building at 133 Park Street NE (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, also at 133 Park Street NE (Vienna Courts) requests donations of clothing that match the current season as storage space for off-season clothing is limited. Current needs are children's shoes, women's sneakers, men's shirts size small and medium, men's jeans and black pants size 30-36, toddler boys size 12 months – 6T, women's skirts, and maternity pants. 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 Clothes Closet at (703) 679-8966 or [cho.clothes.closet@gmail.com](mailto:cho.clothes.closet@gmail.com).

**Clothes Closet Summer Hours.** The Clothes Closet's last open day for this season will be Monday, May 23. The Closet will reopen on Monday, September 12. In the interim, clothing will be available and donations accepted by appointment. To schedule an appointment, please email [cho.clothes.closet@gmail.com](mailto:cho.clothes.closet@gmail.com) or call (703) 679-8966.

**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 see the "Needs" section above or visit our website at <http://tinyurl.com/CHOfurniture> 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.

**Thanks to Our Donors !** CHO receives financial support from a myriad of churches, organizations, and private donors. While we never publicize information on private donors, we would like to recognize and thank all of our ongoing loyal supporters, including those mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter.

Numerous corporate donors have included CHO in their corporate or employee giving. These include AT&T, BUYCHIMES, D3, Exxon Mobil Corporation, ICF Intl., Jud Tile, Navy Federal Credit Union, Verizon and Vienna Drug.

In addition to financial support, CHO receives donations of food and clothing from many organizations including: Andrew Chapel United Methodist, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Bright Horizons, Christ Church Vienna, Club Phoenix, Cornerstone, Emmanuel Lutheran, Emmaus United Church of Christ, Epiphany United Methodist, ExxonMobil Spouses Club, Golden Girls softball team, Green Hedges School, Holy Cross, Jammin' Java, Louise Archer Elementary School, Marshall Road Elementary School, the Mennonite Church, NEVCA (Northeast Vienna Citizens Assn.) Food Drive, Northern Virginia Model Railroaders, Old Creek Elementary School, Our Lady of Good Counsel Church (OLGC) and OLGC School, Oakton Church of the Brethren, Primitive Baptist Church, 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist School, Supervisor Hudgin's coat drive, St. Mark Catholic Church, Vienna Baptist Children's Center, Vienna Baptist, the Town of Vienna and employees, Vienna Presbyterian, ESOL at VPC, Vienna Quilters, Vonage, Wesley United Methodist, Wolf Trap Elementary School.

## 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. During the first three months of 2016, we helped 156 families and 666 people. March was a record number for persons served - 309 people !

To better assist our clients, we recently developed a simple description of what a client to the Food & Clothes Closets can expect from us. It is printed in English, Spanish, Arabic and Persian. Hopefully, this will help new clients better understand the type of help we provide and how to receive it.

**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. For the first three months of 2016, we provided \$27,771 of emergency aid to 92 families.

**CLOTHES CLOSET:** The Clothes Closet collects clothing and distributes it to the needy. It is located at 133 Park Street NE, 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 on all except the first Monday of the month. We current average about 30 clients a week.

**MEALS ON WHEELS (MOW):** MOW provides meal deliveries to persons having difficulty preparing their own food. Food for six days a week is provided and deliveries are made three days a week from Vienna Presbyterian Church.

## Fundraising/Food Collection Events

**Shepherd's Center Interfaith Service:** The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna's annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service took place on Tuesday, November 24, 2015. CHO receives half of the offering from the service. This year that amounted to over \$1,200. **Thank you!**

**Whole Foods Day.** The Committee for Helping Others (CHO) and the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV) shared in a portion of **Vienna Whole Foods** receipts on Wednesday, March 30, 2016. Thanks to Whole Foods and to all who dropped by to show their support and to shop! CHO received approximately \$2,100 from this event.

**Stuff the Bus.** Thank you to all who stopped by the Vienna Giant on Saturday, February 27 and made donations to the Stuff the Bus event. 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. We collected 1500 pounds of food, approximately \$510 cash/checks/change and new this year, \$155 in Giant gift cards. Support for this effort came from many. CHO's Carolyn Mysel and Rebecca Huffman, who coordinated the event, wish to express their thanks to all who volunteered. James Madison High School Junior Civitans volunteered in shifts and provided hands-on help throughout the day. We had a great show of support from our community officials - Ro Pauline from Coordinated Services Planning, Vance Zavela, Partnership Developer, Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships and Supervisor Cathy Hudgins. CHO's Adele Hubbard helped to unload the haul back at CHO and Cynthia Garner served as our on-call money counter/treasurer from the warm and cozy confines of the FastTran bus! Special thanks to the fellows who drive the Fastran buses who were there all day; they don't get paid for working this project.

## Volunteer Award

CHO's Rebecca Huffman was one of the individuals honored at the Vienna Volunteers Award event held on April 12 in the Flame Room at the Vienna Firehouse. Carolyn Mysel, who presented Rebecca to the Mayor that night, noted that "Rebecca has the biggest heart and it shows when she's helping clients."

**Below left: Some of our "Stuff the bus" volunteers. Below right: Vienna Mayor Laurie A. DiRocco, Rebecca Huffman, Rebecca's daughter Bridget, and Carolyn Mysel.**



## Christmas Program Report

The 2015 CHO Christmas Program held on December 12 at Vienna Presbyterian Church (VPC) was a busy and happy occasion. Program Chair Carolyn Mysel wants to give special thanks to all of the volunteers who helped over the two-day period. A toy area was set up in VPC's basement as well as an area designated as "Margaret's Corner," in honor of Margaret Fisher, a former Board member who died last year. Margaret and her husband would purchase coats during the Christmas sales in various local stores to donate to our own Christmas Store. The Store was also brightened by a display of beautiful quilts to be given to families. Clothing and other goods were also set up in the church's Great Hall. 120 bikes were donated, repaired when necessary, and found new homes.

We had 147 volunteers over two days helping with the Christmas Store, in addition to the volunteers who collected and sorted the Christmas Store items at their workplaces and churches, and those who organized and received the bikes. Special thanks to Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church and to bikes@Vienna, who repair bikes throughout the year in anticipation of this event.

We served 229 families - a total of 839 people. 133 families came through the Christmas Store. We helped other families who came to us later and several girls from New Generations and folks living at Tyson's Towers (thanks to the Girl Scouts for delivering fruit to individuals living there). We dispensed \$13,620 in Giant food cards to those we helped for Christmas and \$5,630 in gift cards for teens and some adults for gifts. Thanks to all who contributed to this effort and put smiles on the faces of children who otherwise would have received no gifts this holiday season.

Now PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, for our Christmas Store 2016. Setup will take place on Friday, December 9.

Below Left: Winter coats are ready for children at "Margaret's Corner;" pictured are Margaret's friend Karen Dunlop and Margaret's spouse Brian Troutman. Below right: Bikes await new riders outside the Christmas Store.



**CHO TREASURERS' REPORT****JULY -DECEMBER****2015****Bank Accounts****BALANCE****BALANCE****INCREASE OR****7/1/2015****12/31/2015****(DECREASE)**

Checking	\$49,928.93	\$79,289.72	\$29,360.79
EMERGENCY FUND	\$21,166.53	\$21,171.81	\$5.28
MORELAND 2	<u>\$88,402.01</u>	<u>\$88,141.31</u>	<u>(\$260.70)</u>
TOTAL Bank Accounts	\$159,497.47	\$188,602.84	\$29,105.37

**RECEIPTS****CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS**

EPIPHANY WOMEN \$1,000.00

VIENNA PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN \$500.00

TOTAL CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS \$1,500.00

**CHURCHES**

ANTIOCH CHRISTIAN \$500.00

CHRIST CHURCH OF VIENNA \$5,000.00

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS \$600.00

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN \$2,518.33

EMMAUS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST \$200.00

EPIPHANY METHODIST \$534.00

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA \$2,000.00

NO. Va PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH \$300.00

OAKTON CHURCH OF TH BRETHERN \$25.00

OAKTON METHODIST \$500.00

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL \$200.00

PROVIDENCE BAPTIST \$1,203.50

VIENNA BAPTIST CHURCH \$900.00

VIENNA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH \$12,822.00

WESLEY METHODIST \$379.00

TOTAL CHURCHES \$27,681.83

INDIVIDUALS \$25,847.67

INTEREST CHECKING \$2.47

INTEREST EMERGENCY FUND \$5.28

INTEREST MORELAND \$3.71

**OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

AMERICA'S CHARITIES \$662.67

CROP WALK \$8,337.59

D3 \$1,500.00

EXXON-MOBIL CORPORATION \$1,000.00

GOLDEN GIRLS \$808.00

NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION \$20,000.00

SHEPHERDS CENTER OF OAKTON \$1,250.00

TOWN OF VIENNA \$1,500.00

VIENNA QUILTERS UNLIMITED	<u>\$50.00</u>		
TOTAL OTHER ORGANIZATIONS		<u>\$35,108.26</u>	
<b><u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u></b>			<b><u>\$90,149.22</u></b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
ADMINISTRATION	\$196.00		
BANK FEE	\$142.41		
BROCHURES AND NEWSLETTERS	\$467.16		
CHECK PRINTING	\$237.56		
CHO Telephone	\$291.89		
INSURANCE	<u>\$225.00</u>		
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION		\$1,560.02	
Application Fee, Vienna Business Assoc.		\$150.00	
AUDIT PROCEDURES		\$2,000.00	
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM		\$1,036.29	
CLOTHES CLOSET		\$79.95	
FOOD		\$38.32	
FURNITURE PROGRAM	\$33.00		
PROP. TAX	\$348.23		
TRUCK REPAIR	<u>\$637.22</u>		
TOTAL FURNITURE PROGRAM		\$1,018.45	
MEDICAL		\$3,168.18	
MISCELLANEOUS ASS'T			
AUTO REPAIR	\$1,445.84		
DENTAL BILL	\$490.00		
GASOLINE	\$53.00		
INSURANCE	\$200.82	(MORELAND FUND)	
MOVING EXPENSES	\$50.00		
TAXI VOUCHERS	<u>\$180.00</u>		
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS ASS'T		\$2,419.66	
Personal Care		\$155.13	
RENTAL ASS'T		\$29,495.00	
UTILITY ASS'T			
ELECTRIC	\$14,849.79	(\$63.59 FROM MORELAND FUND)	
FUEL OIL	\$374.85		
GAS	\$3,251.70		
Water	<u>\$1,446.51</u>		
TOTAL UTILITY ASS'T		<u>\$19,922.85</u>	
<b><u>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</u></b>			<b><u>\$61,043.85</u></b>
<b><u>OVERALL TOTAL</u></b>			<b><u>\$29,105.37</u></b>

The amount described as "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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**CHO**  
May 2016

The Committee for  
Helping Others



Serving Vienna, Oakton,  
Merrifield, and Dunn Loring

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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

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