

May 2013

1400 North Uhle Street Suite 704 Arlington, VA 22201 703-228-7030 www.OARonline.org



Heads up! Get ready for Do More 24 next Thursday, June 6th. Click the logo above for more information. We will remind you next week!

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#### **OAR Tours**

We want you to swing by the OAR office and see how far your support goes in assisting ex-offenders in finding jobs. To schedule a tour, please contact Adam Hand by calling 703-228-7031 or email at ahand@oaronline.org.



# Renew Your ACDF

offering badge renewals on Monday, June 3 and Monday, June 17 from 8:00am-Noon as well as Saturday, June 29 from 9:30am-1:30pm. More dates to come. You must RSVP to attend. Contact Adam Hand by calling 703-228-7031 or email at <u>ahand@oaronline.org</u>.

# The Arlington Jail will be

## Support OAR

Can you help our clients with Metro cards? They need them to get to educational classes, social service referrals, and to job interviews. You can mail cards to us, or make a donation online specifically for transportation by clicking below.



Thank you!

## Connect With Us!

Help increase our visibility by liking us, following us, viewing our videos, connecting with us, and telling others about us through the links below:







hour OAR Tour and bring a friend

#### Dear Elizabeth,

Great news! Gov. Bob McDonnell has announced that he is automatically restoring the voting rights of nonviolent felons on an individual basis. This sweeping policy decision, effective July 15, removes the application process for nonviolent felons. Once the administration verifies a nonviolent felon has paid his debt to society, the governor will send the individual a letter restoring his rights.

For more information, read these articles:

- Richmond Times-Dispatch: "McDonnell to speed rights process for nonviolent felons"
- Washington Post: "McDonnell to expedite rights restoration process for non-violent felons in Virginia"

As many of you recall, we honored Gov. McDonnell at our annual Breakfast this April for his contributions to reentry during his administration.

Gail

Gail C. Arnall, OAR Executive Director

# Spotlight on Community Service

OAR works with the Arlington County and City of Falls Church courts to assist clients in the completion of court-mandated community service hours. We partner with over 300 community agencies to help over 1500 clients per year complete 75,000 hours of service. This month, we are featuring three of OAR's Community Service partner work sites! As you read about them, think about local nonprofits/government agencies that you know that might need help from our clients, and send their contact information to Heather at hpritchett@oaronline.org!

#### A-SPAN

Arlington Street People's Assistance Network (A-SPAN) serves the homeless population in Arlington. A-SPAN operates the Arlington Emergency Winter Shelter (EWS). OAR's Community Service clients volunteer with A-SPAN in a variety of ways, including cleaning, serving meals, staffing the registration desk, and sorting donations. Sarah Morse, A-SPAN's Manager of Volunteer Programs and Special Events, states, "Volunteers from OAR are an important part of our volunteer programs because they give of their time, energy, and enthusiasm to assist our staff with operations both at our daily drop-in center and at our Emergency Winter Shelter. OAR volunteers are always willing to help in any capacity, whether that is sorting donations, serving meals, playing soccer, or assisting our clients with their daily needs. The support of such valuable volunteers plays a key role in helping A-SPAN accomplish our mission of ending homelessness in Arlington."



#### Arlington Assembly of God This wonderful church provides free meals for presently-homeless individuals

and families. OAR Community Service clients assist in setting up for the meal, serving the food, and cleaning up after the dinner. About a dozen OAR clients earn hours here each month; some also make this their primary place of service. Blanca Alaf, assistant to Pastor Lynn Carter, reports, "OAR volunteers perform greatly needed kitchen and cleaning duties for our feeding ministry. They're all doing a wonderful job!"

## Gates of Ballston Community Center

The Gates of Ballston Community Center is one of OAR's most active sites for Community Service clients. Connie Freeman, who supervises OAR's clients, says that the Community Outreach program at Gates of Ballston is "always happy to receive OAR volunteers." OAR clients assist in monitoring the Center's computer lab, answering phones, assisting with various special projects, and a host of other activities. Ms. Freeman says that the staff and residents are "open to learning from OAR clients as we see that they are learning from their experience with us." But what gives her a particular sense of satisfaction is that many of the volunteers continue to stay in touch with the Center even after they have fulfilled their Community Service requirement.







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