



Strengthening Community Through Second Chances

Greetings!



As we prepare to welcome in the new year, OAR wants to thank you, our supporters and friends, for all your support in 2017! Thus far in 2017, you have supported 1,978 men, women, and youth. You have helped 1,394 people completing community service and 642 men and women who are returning back to our community after incarceration.

Although the year is coming to an end, it's not over yet! We still need help covering expenses from Project Christmas Angel and to support OAR's other programs as well. Your support makes a huge positive impact on the men and women we work with, like Christian. Read more below about Christian's story and several ways you can still support our participants this year.

From all of us at OAR to you, **thank you** for supporting OAR participants and our mission this past year and beyond. We wish a fantastic new year!



Elizabeth

Elizabeth Jones Valderrama, MA, CVA
Executive Director



Your Support Is Still Needed

In early December, we shared that we needed to raise \$10,000 by December 31st to cover expenses for Project Christmas Angel and other OAR programs for the rest of 2017. Thanks to many generous donors, we have raised \$7,500 thus far. We are still \$2,500 from reaching our goal. Would you consider a gift to help OAR participants? Participants are grateful for your contributions and this is expressed below in the thank you note from a parent currently incarcerated.



continue Project Christmas Angel in future years. Your name will not appear along with your contribution.
Project Christmas Angel is very new to me, but I love the idea. I was very fearful of the Holidays coming and not being able to celebrate with my family. This program is going to help ~~me &~~ my family be able to cope with the holidays better. I write her every week and this is keeping us even that much closer. So thank you very much for bringing this to the table.

Parent letter about what Project Christmas Angel means to them and their family

Donate Now!

DONATE



Thank you once again from the OAR team for all your support in 2017! Your support changes the lives of families who aren't able to spend the holidays together this year.



Over 1,200 Holiday Gifts Provided to Children of Parents Incarcerated

OAR's "Project Christmas Angel" was held on December 13th at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Arlington. There were over 250 volunteers, staff, and members of the Board in attendance to wrap presents for children of parents incarcerated in our local detention centers. Thanks to all the individuals, organizations, and businesses who donated gifts during the past few months during our Annual Toy Drive and to those who volunteered for this event in any way. Thanks to you, we were able to wrap over 1,200 gifts and get them out for delivery to nearly 400 children!

Below are several photos from the event. Thanks to all who made this possible!

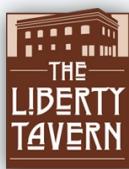
To view additional photos from the event click [here](#).







Special thanks to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Arlington for providing the space for the event, and Fireworks Pizza and Liberty Tavern for donating delicious food!



Did You Forget Anyone On Your Holiday List?

amazon smile
You Shop. Amazon Gives.

Finish your holiday shopping using [AmazonSmile](#)! When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. OAR is listed as one of the organizations that you can choose when you checkout and we encourage all of our supporters to consider using AmazonSmile! It's a great, easy way to give back to your favorite charities and organizations, all you have to do is shop! Bookmark [this link](#) to use AmazonSmile and to support OAR this holiday season.

This holiday season you can support us when you shop!

Shop for everyone on your list at smile.amazon.com.
You shop. Amazon donates.



Volunteer Spotlight

This month's "Spotlight" is on all the dedicated volunteers who helped make Project Christmas Angel a success! Dozens of volunteers worked hundreds of hours over several weeks in preparation of the event. We'd like to highlight a few of these volunteers:

Many thanks go to our dedicated volunteer Roger Soles, who over the course of a month picked up the majority of toys collected at Toy Drive donation sites around the DC metro area. Roger volunteered his time and his pickup truck!

Thanks to our tireless phone bank and data entry volunteers who did administrative work in the OAR office to ensure each gift would get to the right home: Stephanie Baldzani, Michael Brouin, Mara D'Amico (OAR Board Member), Faith Ferber, Gladys Jones, Myriam Jurado, Liz Kauffman, Liz Kelin, Jeff Marusak, Sarah Monahan, Cathy O'Malley, Karin Price, Maureen Rigney, Christine, Searle, Rebecca Swartz, Melissa Swearingen, and Doug White.

And big thanks to the volunteers who helped transport all the toys to St. Andrews for the wrapping party: Jonathan, John, and Stephanie offered their time and vehicles to make the transport the most efficient yet!



Jonathan, John, and Stephanie



A Participant Story: Meet "Christian"

"Christian" (*name changed in order to protect the identity of the participant*) was ordered to complete 250 hours of community service through OAR's community service program. After meeting with an OAR Case Manager, Christian began completing his hours at the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). While Christian was completing his hours at AFAC, he showed perseverance, hard work, and dedication. The team at AFAC was so impressed by Christian's work ethic that they offered him a job, which he happily accepted. After accepting the job at AFAC, Christian found a new site where he finished his community service hours. Because of the partnership with OAR, Christian found employment and can now better support himself and his family financially. Christian expressed to us that community service has helped him stay busy and focused on his goals and that he has been receiving the help and treatment he needed. Christian has an upcoming court date, and if all goes well, his felony charge will be dismissed.



Upcoming Events

"Cycle for Second Chances"

Saturday, Feb 03, 2018

For the first time ever, OAR is collaborating with CycleBar, located at 3400 ColumbiaPike, Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22204, for a fundraising event!

CycleBar will be hosting a cycling class and all the proceeds will go to OAR! Stay tuned on our social media and website for sign up details. Join us at 1:30pm for a free pre-workout reception. Class begins at 2:00pm. A donation to OAR of \$25/\$35/\$45 will get you in the class.



Second Chance Fundraising Breakfast

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Save the date for our 10th Annual Second Chance Fundraising Breakfast! Last year, we had nearly 600 guests in attendance to support OAR. The event will be held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Crystal City (1700 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA). For more information, please contact Heather Pritchett at hpritchett@oaronline.org or 703-228-7435.



More details coming soon.



Learn More About OAR at a Free Tour!

Want to learn more about us? Join us for a **free one-hour tour** at the OAR office! Guests will hear about OAR's programs and services from the staff who are working in the programs, tour the OAR office, and hear participant success stories. We

promise to start and end on time. Below is a list of upcoming dates/times. Please [sign up here](#) or contact Heather Pritchett at hpritchett@oaronline.org.

Upcoming Tour Dates

Tuesday, January 9, 6:30PM
Wednesday, January 24, 12:00PM
Thursday, February 8, 8:00AM
Tuesday, February 27, 12:00PM
Wednesday, March 7, 6:30PM
Thursday, March 22, 12:00PM
Wednesday, April 11, 8:00AM
Tuesday, April 17, 12:00PM
Thursday, May 10, 6:30PM
Thursday, May 24, 12:00PM
Tuesday, June 12, 8:00AM
Wednesday, June 20, 12:00PM



Support OAR

1. Make a monetary donation to OAR by clicking <http://oaronline.org/donate-now/> ▶ [Donate Now](#)
2. Donate through United Way designation #8078
3. Donate CFC designation #26226
4. Donate Target Gift Cards in increments of \$10 each for participants
5. Shop on our Amazon Wish List: [OAR's Amazon Wish List](http://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist?ref_=cm_wl_search_rvp_wl&cid=A29JY6MLB94BCD&pldnSite=1) (http://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist?ref_=cm_wl_search_rvp_wl&cid=A29JY6MLB94BCD&pldnSite=1) Don't forget to let Heather hpritchett@oaronline.org know who you are so we can send you a thank you note.
6. Attend a one-hour OAR Tour or an OAR Event and bring your friends: <http://oaronline.org/oar-tours-upcoming-events/>



OAR: Strengthening Community Through Second Chances

1400 North Uhle Street, Suite 704

Arlington, VA 22201

703-228-7030

www.OARonline.org

