



Strengthening Community Through Second Chances

Greetings!



Another fiscal year has come to an end! As we close the door on FY17, I am thrilled to share with you the quality services provided and accomplishments achieved over the past year thanks to the generous contributions of volunteers and supporters just like you.

Recently one of our longtime volunteers, Ms. Elizabeth "Betty" Ahern was honored with the RSVP Award from Volunteer Arlington. We are so grateful for her years of service. More details on this celebration can be found

below.

Dana, a reentry participant, recently wrote in to give us an update. I am excited to share that with you below.

We have also rolled out a calendar of upcoming events. I hope you will read more about these events below and plan to join us so that you can connect with OAR's mission in new and meaningful ways!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth".

Elizabeth Jones Valderrama, MA, CVA
Executive Director



OAR Volunteer, Ms. Betty Ahern, wins Volunteer Arlington Award

OAR volunteer, Ms. Elizabeth "Betty" Ahern, was celebrated on July 25th as the "RSVP Award" winner at Volunteer Arlington's event, Arlington Cares: A Celebration of Volunteerism.

The RSVP Award represents the efforts of the RSVP Northern Virginia program, which works with volunteers ages 55 and older, and is

awarded to someone who has used their skills and interests to make a valuable, lasting impact on our community.

Ms. Betty has volunteered at OAR for over 20 years! As a retired nurse, she lends her expertise by teaching the Health Awareness course in the Arlington County Detention Facility. We are so grateful for Ms. Betty's volunteer service, as well as all 200+ of OAR's volunteers!



Ms. Betty with OAR Executive Director, Elizabeth Jones Valderrama, and fellow OAR volunteers Sharon Kotok and Tim Denning



FY17 Accomplishments and Services

We are excited to share with you some of our accomplishments and services from fiscal year 2017! Between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, we provided the following assistance:

Overall

- 2,232 total individuals served

Community Service

- 1,584 individuals were enrolled in the Community Service Program, including 226 youth under the age of 18
- 89% of Community Service participants successfully completed their hours
- 95% of Community Service participants surveyed felt that the service they contributed was beneficial to them personally and to their community
- 78% of Community Service participants surveyed felt they gained unique skills or experience through their service

Reentry

- 733 individuals received Reentry assistance (both pre- and post-release)
- 68 participants secured employment with OAR's help
- 893 units of clothing distributed (suits for job interviews, t-shirts, sweatpants, work boots, etc.)
- 143 units of food provided (meals and snacks)
- \$13,300 given for housing assistance (security deposits paid, rental assistance, etc.)
- \$931 given for participants to obtain IDs (copies of birth certificates, etc.)
- \$6,613 given for medical assistance (prescriptions, co-pays, etc.)
- \$15,891 given for transportation for participants to get to job interviews, medical appointments, etc. (Metro fare cards, Uber and taxi rides, etc.)

- 33 individuals have participated in the Intensive Reentry Program (IRP), which targets those at medium- to high-risk of recidivism, since it began in July 2015 and only three have had further involvement with the criminal justice system, which gives the program a 90% success rate thus far!



Upcoming Events

Sushi-Zen Fundraiser

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

In celebration of their 20th Anniversary, Sushi-Zen is partnering with 20 different nonprofit organizations throughout the next year. OAR has been selected as one of their charity partners, and on August 2, 2017, a portion of all the dinner sales at Sushi-Zen will be donated to OAR! Plan to join us on the evening of August 2nd to enjoy delicious sushi and support OAR! Visit our website for more information: <https://www.oaronline.org/sushi-zen-fundraiser/>



Sing Out for Second Chances

Sunday, October 15, 2017

Join OAR for an evening of inspirational music presented by local faith community choirs and guest speakers from OAR to discuss the power and importance of second chances! The event will be held at Mt. Zion Baptist Church (3500 S 19th St, Arlington, VA 22204). Visit our website for more information: <https://www.oaronline.org/sing-out-for-second-chances-2017/>



Toy Drive

The entire month of October 2017

Each year in the month of October, OAR hosts a community-wide Toy Drive to collect new, donated toys and holiday gifts for children of incarcerated parents. We are seeking businesses, community centers, faith communities, and other locations to host donation boxes for us where toy collections can be held. For more information, please contact Anne Breville at abreville@oaronline.org or 703-228-0587.



Project Christmas Angel

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Save the date for Project Christmas Angel! This is one of OAR's largest events of the year! OAR collects holiday gifts for children of incarcerated and recently released parents and distributes the gifts to the children. Plan to join us on Wednesday, December 13th for our Wrapping Party, where nearly 200 volunteers will gather to select gifts for the children, wrap them, and prepare them for delivery. RSVP required. The RSVP form will be posted on our website in November. For more information, please contact Anne Breville at abreville@oaronline.org or 703-228-0587.



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.



A Participant Story: **Update on Dana**

You may remember hearing Dana's story at the OAR Breakfast. (You can read the story he shared at a similar event [HERE](#).)

We have great news! In early August, Dana will be **moving into his very own apartment!** He shared at the Breakfast that he had been released just two months prior and was renting a room in someone's home.



Thanks to OAR's help, he will now have an apartment of his own. He also worked closely with OAR staff to complete Supplemental Security Income (SSI) paperwork, and was recently notified that he will be receiving SSI funds! This is great news because Dana is a disabled veteran.

We are thrilled with the progress Dana has made since he was released in January. He's going to need our help as he settles into his own place, though. Dana has shared with us that he will need a bed, new linens and kitchenware. **We are collecting in-kind donations to assist him.** If you'd like to make a contribution, please contact Heather at hpritchett@oaronline.org.




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. To sign up, please [sign up here](#) or contact Heather Pritchett at hpritchett@oaronline.org.

Tuesday, August 1 at 8:00 am
Wednesday, August 16 at 12:00 pm
Thursday, September 7 at 6:30pm
Tuesday, September 19 at 12:00pm
Thursday, October 12 at 8:00am
Wednesday, October 25 at 12:00pm
Wednesday, November 8 at 6:30pm
Tuesday, November 14 at 12:00pm
Wednesday, December 6 at 8:00am
Monday, December 18 at 12:00pm



Support OAR

1. Make a monetary donation to OAR by clicking <http://oaronline.org/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 clients
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

