



Strengthening Community Through Second Chances

Greetings!



This Halloween, OAR has no tricks up our sleeve - only treats! Read below to find out how your support is providing "treats" and support to OAR's participants.

We recently held our 2nd Annual "Sing Out for Second Chances" event. We have photos from the event to share with you below.

As we move ahead and put Halloween's ghosts and goblins in our past, we are looking forward to the winter and our annual Project Christmas Angel! This program provides holiday gifts to children of incarcerated parents. We are currently in the midst of our Toy Drive to collect gifts in the community. We also need volunteer support now and all the way through the event on December 13th. Read below to learn more about the Toy Drive and how you can get involved with Project Christmas Angel.

From all of us at OAR, we wish you a safe and happy Halloween!

Elizabeth Jones Valderrama, MA, CVA
Executive Director



Sing Out for Second Chances Raised Funds and Awareness for OAR

OAR held the 2nd Annual "Sing Out for Second Chances" event on Sunday, October 15th. The event was hosted by Mount Zion Baptist Church in South Arlington. Approximately 150 guests were in attendance, and over \$4,300 was raised to support OAR's programs. Five local faith-based choirs performed, and in between the performances OAR speakers shared information and success stories about OAR.

Below are several photos from the event. Thanks to all who attended!



*The event was held at and hosted by
Mount Zion Baptist Church.*



The Third Baptist Church Mass Choir



St. Mary's Boys and Girls Choir



*Shrine Monsters of Immanuel
Church-on-the-Hill*



Our Lady Queen of Peace Folk Choir



*Creative Arts Ministries Choir of
Mount Zion*

Special thanks to the sponsors of this event:



Volunteer Spotlight



Christine Searle volunteers with OAR in a variety of ways. For over 10 years, Christine has taught the Employability Readiness course in the Arlington County Detention Facility (ACDF). As owner of the local business Searle Business Solutions, Christine utilizes her professional skills in her volunteer work. She has assisted hundreds of incarcerated adults in preparing for employment post-release. Part of the curriculum is dedicated to understanding the

impact of a criminal record on finding employment, with expert advice on the realities individuals incarcerated will face upon release. Students also conduct

mock interviews with Christine. Her Employability Readiness class is always well-attended, and the ratings from class participants in her course evaluations are consistently excellent.

Additionally, Christine works tirelessly to spread the word about the work of OAR. Christine has introduced dozens of local residents to OAR, and her genuine passion has turned them into supporters and volunteers themselves. Christine has been a Table Captain at OAR's Second Chance Fundraising Breakfast for several years, committing to fill a table (or two!) of her own guests to help bring additional supporters to OAR's mission.

We are so grateful to our dedicated supporters and volunteers like Christine! We truly could not do the work that we do without you!



Upcoming Events

Toy Drive

The entire month of October 2017

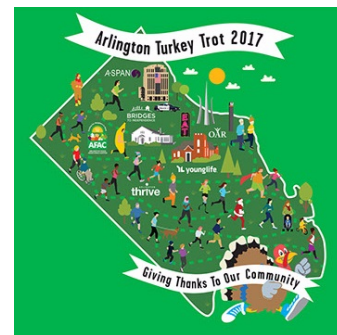
Each year in the month of October, OAR hosts a community-wide Toy Drive to collect new, donated toys and holiday gifts for children of incarcerated parents. We are seeking businesses, community centers, faith communities, and other locations to host donation boxes for us where toy collections can be held. [For more information, please visit our website.](#)



Arlington Turkey Trot

Thursday, November 23, 2017 (Thanksgiving Day)

Register now for the Arlington Turkey Trot! OAR is a beneficiary organization for this year's event, so your registration will help to support OAR, as well as five other local nonprofit organizations. Online registration will close on November 20th, and on-site registration will not be available this year. Register by November 1st to guarantee you receive a Turkey Trot t-shirt! Visit the [Turkey Trot website](#) for additional information and to register.



Giving Tuesday

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

After Black Friday and Cyber Monday comes Giving Tuesday, a global day of giving back to your favorite charities and celebrating giving and philanthropy. As you plan your Giving Tuesday donations, please consider making a contribution to OAR! You can always make a contribution via [OAR's website.](#)



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: "Janet"

"Janet" was ordered to complete 224 hours of community service in lieu of court costs for a case that originated in 2004. Since she was incarcerated and unable to pay, the costs and interest were quickly accumulating. Owing nearly \$5,000, Janet was able to ask a Judge to convert her costs to community service through OAR. She met with a Case Manager at OAR who helped her through the process. Janet recently completed all of her hours at a local church and food bank where she reports she will continue to volunteer to give back to her community, even though her court-mandated hours are completed. While completing her hours, Janet was able to stay out of incarceration and secured a full-time job with benefits. This income allowed her to pay restitution to the individuals involved in her case. Restitution cannot be paid back through community service. Additionally, she was able to enter into and complete a sober living program and successfully completed her probation with Arlington County. Janet's case will be closed successfully with the courts and probation in November 2017.



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.

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 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/>

► Donate Now



OAR: Strengthening Community Through Second Chances

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