

NEWS AND UPDATES

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Thank you for continuing to support this mission. In tough times, it's important to honor our friends, like you, who are fighting back against oppression and on behalf of the most vulnerable in our communities. Right now, there are many people to honor. Recently, the federal government cut \$820 million in grants earmarked for programs that make communities safer ([Click here to read more](#)). These now decimated programs include those that support survivors of crime, provide substance use disorder treatment, support reentry services, and improve aid for those experiencing domestic violence. If allowed to stand, these cuts will make us less safe.

But many are fighting back. Some of our fellow organizations in various parts of the United States filed a class action lawsuit to challenge these illegal and arbitrary funding terminations. They, many groups, and individuals across the country are challenging arbitrary cuts to programming that keeps communities healthy and safe.

We at OAR are fortunate because our federal funding remains and we have a supportive community. Though we operate from the perspective of joy and abundance, we know that things can change for us at any moment. We remain inspired by the determination of groups and individuals, and we stand in solidarity with them.

To keep you updated on local events: Virginia's new Clean Slate Law is still coming, although it has been delayed. That law, passed in 2021, allows for automatic sealing of certain cases like simple marijuana possession and misdemeanor trespassing. It was set to be implemented in July of 2025, but has been delayed for infrastructure reasons until July of 2026 ([Click here to read more](#)). Don't forget that Virginia is hosting primary elections now and major elections in November. Please be on the lookout for candidates' views on key criminal justice policy and human rights issues.

We know times are difficult. We are so proud and honored to stand with and work alongside you.

OAR Collective

JOIN US FOR INTHRIVE FILM FESTIVAL

INTHRIVE FILM FESTIVAL
NORTHERN VIRGINIA

3 Days
3 Venues
1 Mission

**To celebrate the voices and
talents of incarceration survivors!**



MASON SQUARE
George Mason University



OAR is excited to be a planning partner for the 3-night return of the Inthrive Film Festival.

Here's a look at what's coming:

Wednesday, June 11: We kick off the festival at @apconthepike with the theme "Incarceration Impact".

Thursday, June 12: We move to the Van Metre Auditorium at Mason Square to explore the "Potential of Love".

Friday, June 13: We wrap up at the McGuireWoods Gallery at @workhousearts, celebrating the voices of incarceration survivors with the theme "Challenging Preconceptions" at the old Lorton Prison.

Doors open at 6:00 PM

Films start at 6:30 PM

Event closes at 9:00 PM

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

Volunteer Opportunities



Call for VOLUNTEERS

**ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT | COURT VOLUNTEER
REENTRY SUPPORT | STRENGTH AND OR FITNESS TRAINER**

JOIN US AS A VOLUNTEER AND HELP US CREATE A POSITIVE IMPACT!



OAR currently has several volunteer opportunities available for those looking to get more involved in our work. We're looking for in-person volunteers to help at the OAR Welcome Center in Arlington, Virginia. Shifts are flexible with options from Monday through Friday, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Click the link below for more details.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

CHARLIE'S CORNER



Hi, it's Charlie, OAR's Ambassador of Happiness.

I love making new friends, and welcoming them with open paws. Today, I am sending you kindness and many tail wags.

Do you want to see more pictures of my adventures? Follow OAR on Instagram

[Click Here to Follow Us on Instagram](#)

Our Contact Information

OAR of Arlington, Alexandria and Falls
Church

P. O. Box 41030

Arlington, VA 22204

703-228-7030

<http://www.OARonline.org>

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