

Holding Onto Hope This Season



As the fall season continues, we're holding onto the sense of hope and renewal that comes with change, a feeling that sustains our work and our community. The air feels a little lighter, and the holidays are around the corner. It's a comforting feeling and an important one. Joy is what keeps us going, especially when times are tough. It's what fuels our fight for change.

We also know that the months after October can be especially difficult for many. For some families, the holidays bring ease and celebration. For others, they come with financial strain, less sunlight, and a greater need for emotional support.

This year, those challenges are intensified by a slowing economy, ongoing racial injustices, furloughs, layoffs, a more carceral criminal legal system, and growing uncertainty about the future.

These are the months when OAR's support is needed most. We journey with families and neighbors returning to the community as they work to rebuild stability, and the pressure to do so is even greater during the winter.

In the coming weeks, we'll be launching our annual giving campaign, and we hope you'll join us in uplifting families and neighbors who need extra care this season. OAR sends warm hugs to everyone who has faced challenges this year, and we are deeply grateful for any support you can give, whether through time, resources, or simply by sharing encouragement.

We're also proud to share that OAR continues its vital programs. Despite challenges and uncertainty surrounding federal grants, our commitment to participants has not wavered. We haven't slowed down, and we have you to thank for that.

Finally, a reminder: November 4 is Election Day. As a nonprofit, OAR does not take a position on candidates or outcomes, but we do take a position on participation. Your voice matters. Please make a plan to vote.

In solidarity and grateful,

The OAR Collective

Hypothermia Kit Volunteer Opportunity



From October through April, OAR collects Hypothermia Kits to support participants returning to the community after incarceration who may not have stable housing.

Volunteers are invited to donate only the new items listed on the attached sheet — including warm clothing, backpacks, hygiene supplies, and snacks. This is a great individual, family, or group activity that you can organize at any time that works best for you. Drop-offs can be made at the OAR Welcome Center. Thank you for helping keep our community warm this season!

[Click here to learn more](#)

Voting in Virginia



This month in our Voting Information Series: Virginia voters are required to show an acceptable form of ID at the polls.

If you arrive without one, you can either:

- Sign an ID Confirmation Statement, or
- Vote for a provisional ballot.

For provisional ballots to count, a copy of your ID or the ID Confirmation Statement must be submitted or signed by noon on the Friday after the election.

Check your ID requirements ahead of time to make sure your vote counts.

Here is a list of Acceptable Forms of Identification for Voting at the Polling Place or Voting Early:

- The Voter Card you received when you registered to vote
- Virginia DMV-issued Driver's License or Identification Card
- Valid United States Passport
- Any ID card issued by the US, Virginia, or a local Virginia government
- Valid student ID card issued by a US university or community college
- Valid student ID issued by a public school or private school in Virginia
- Employer-issued photo ID card
- Any current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document with your name and address
- An ID Confirmation Statement

[More Info on ID Requirements](#)

20th Annual Turkey Trot



It's here! Registration for the 20th Annual Arlington Turkey Trot is officially OPEN!

Don't miss Arlington's biggest Thanksgiving tradition — thousands of runners, tons of community spirit, and support for OAR and nine other great organizations making a difference right here at home. Grab your spot today and be part of the celebration!

Are you not a runner? No worries — there are still opportunities to get involved! They are looking for volunteers. Click below to register or volunteer!!

[Click Here to Register](https://www.arlingtonvatrkeytrot.org)

CHARLIE'S CORNER



Hi friends, Charlie here.

Today, after visiting with some new friends, I found a quiet moment to stretch and wag my tail. Sometimes, the smallest things, like new friends and rest, can bring the most joy.

-Charlie

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