Even amid today's challenges, OAR continues building true safety and belonging.



As we close out OAR's 50th anniversary year, we are filled with gratitude for all who have journeyed with us. For half a century, OAR has journeyed with individuals and families impacted by the criminal legal system, working to restore dignity, rebuild lives, and strengthen our communities. What began as a small local effort has grown into a powerful movement of justice, compassion, and fair chances.

Even now, our region faces complex challenges—affordable housing remains out of reach for many, funding for reentry and treatment programs is shrinking, and concerns about safety dominate the headlines. These realities remind us why OAR's mission is as vital today as it was 50 years ago.

Because of your steadfast support, OAR continues to journey with individuals and families during times of change, offering encouragement and resources to move forward. Together, we are building communities where everyone has the chance to belong, to heal, and to grow.

Thank you for being part of this legacy—and for helping us write the next chapter of OAR's story, rooted in justice, joy, and liberation.

The OAR Collective

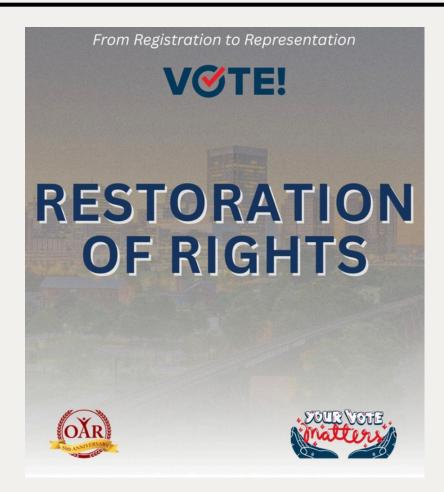
October Expungement Clinic



The next Expungement Clinic will be held on Saturday, October 4th, from 10 AM to 1 PM at Arlington Presbyterian Church (918 S. Lincoln St., Arlington, VA 22204). This clinic provides individuals with the opportunity to have eligible records reviewed and potentially cleared, helping remove barriers to employment, housing, and other opportunities. Teams will be on site to provide guidance and support throughout the process.

Click here to learn more

Voting in Virginia



From now until Election Day, we'll be featuring a short section in each enewsletter to help you get ready to vote. Whether you're a first-time voter or a seasoned Election Day pro, our Voting in Virginia series will share timely information, helpful reminders, and a few surprises along the way.

This month's Voter Information focus is on Restoration of Rights. If someone has a past felony conviction and is no longer incarcerated, they may be eligible to have their civil rights restored by the Governor. The Secretary of the Commonwealth

(SOC) manages the process, which works with state agencies to determine eligibility. Each application is carefully reviewed to ensure the individual meets the Governor's standards for restoration. Once approved, the SOC issues a personalized restoration order, officially restoring the individual's rights. For more information, visit the Secretary of the Commonwealth's website.

More Info on Restoration of Rights

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!

CHARLIE'S CORNER



Hi friends, Charlie here.

Remember that change is natural, just like the turning of the leaves. When life feels uncertain, meet change with compassion—for yourself and for others. That's how OAR has walked alongside people for 50 years, helping each person find new paths forward. And me? I do my part with wagging tails and happy paws, spreading comfort and joy wherever I go.

-Charlie