



NEWS AND UPDATES

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OAR

Turning Care into Action

With so much happening in the world around us, we are especially grateful for the ways our community continues to push forward, show up for one another, and turn care into action.

Throughout August, we have seen that spirit in so many ways. OAR community service participants contributed their time at the Arlington County Fair, members of Trinity Presbyterian Church came together to support Project Backpack, and people across our community continue to stand alongside individuals and families impacted by the criminal legal system.

As we look toward the last few days of August and Give 8/28, we are reminded that each of us has a role to play in creating the kind of community we want to live in. Whether through giving, volunteering, sharing resources, opening doors, or simply caring for one another, every action contributes to something larger.

Thank you for continuing to push forward with us and for being part of the OAR Collective. Together, we continue working toward our shared vision of justice, joy, and liberation for all

The Collective

Give 8/28: Help Us Raise \$15,000

Ninth Annual
Give 8/28
...Because Black Giving is Magic!



On August 28, we are answering the call for Give 8/28, and we hope you will join us.

Give 8/28 is a national day of giving that uplifts Black-led and Black-benefiting organizations whose work is rooted in community, justice, and liberation. OAR is proud to be part of this movement.

This year, our goal is to raise \$15,000 for direct participant support to help individuals and families impacted by the criminal legal system meet immediate needs, including housing, food, transportation, clothing, technology, medical care, childcare, and more.

These resources can make an immediate difference. Transportation assistance can help someone get to work. Clothing can help someone prepare for an interview. Housing assistance can provide stability during a critical moment. Technology can help someone search for employment, stay connected, and access important resources.

Every gift brings us closer to our \$15,000 goal and helps ensure that when a participant needs support, OAR can be there.

Answer the call on August 28 and join us in advancing our shared vision of justice, joy, and liberation for all.

Community Service in Action at the Arlington County Fair



A big “Thank You” to our
Community Service Participants



The Arlington County Fair is one of our community's favorite summer traditions, bringing thousands of people together for several days of fun, connection, and celebration. Behind an event of this size are many people who help make it possible, including OAR community service participants.

This year, OAR participants helped support the Fair while completing court-ordered community service hours. Opportunities like this allow participants to fulfill their community service requirements while contributing their time and energy to events and organizations that are important to our community.

OAR journeys with hundreds of youth and adults each year as they complete community service as an alternative sentencing option. We are grateful to the Arlington County Fair for providing an opportunity for participants to complete their hours while helping make one of Arlington's largest community events possible.

Trinity Presbyterian Shows Up for Project Backpack



A special thank you to our friends at Trinity Presbyterian Church for supporting Project Backpack through a gift card drive and joining us for a special tour of OAR.

During their visit, members of Trinity learned more about OAR's work and how Project Backpack journeys with children and families impacted by the criminal legal system. Their gift card drive helps families purchase the school supplies, clothing, shoes, backpacks, and other back-to-school essentials their children need most.

We loved having the opportunity to connect their generosity directly to the work they are supporting.

OAR can host special volunteer and community engagement opportunities for faith communities, businesses, civic groups, schools, and other organizations interested in getting more involved. These experiences can combine learning about OAR with meaningful opportunities to support individuals and families in our community.

Interested in bringing your group together around OAR's work? We would love to explore what we can do together. Reply to this email and let us know.

I Was Trying to Keep Everything Moving Forward



When I came home, I knew what I wanted. I wanted to work, take care of myself, and keep moving forward. I was ready to do my part, but there were expenses everywhere.

I had a job lined up, but getting there every day was becoming a challenge. When you are trying to get back on your feet, even something that might seem small to someone else can become the thing standing between you and your next paycheck.

OAR helped me with transportation so I could keep getting to work. What mattered to me was that nobody made me feel bad for needing help. They listened to what I needed and helped me figure out the next step.

I am still working toward my goals, and I know there is more ahead of me. But having someone in my corner when I needed it made a difference. Sometimes a little support at the right time is what helps you keep going.

**At OAR, we are committed to ethical storytelling that honors the dignity, privacy, and safety of the individuals and families we journey with. To protect confidentiality, names, identifying details, and circumstances have been changed.*

Join Us September 10th: Inside OAR Tour



You're Invited
INSIDE OAR TOUR

WELCOME CENTER | THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10



We invite you to tour OAR's Welcome Center and experience the space where our vision of justice, joy, and liberation comes to life. During your visit, you will explore the refreshed space and learn how OAR journeys with individuals and families impacted by the criminal legal system, creating pathways to opportunity, stability, and hope.

This is more than a tour of the space. It is an opportunity to see how the OAR philosophies are woven into the work we do every day. You will also be greeted by our Ambassador of Happiness, therapy dog Charlie, who brings joy to the Welcome Center each day. Space is limited; registration is required.

Charlie's Barks of Wisdom



Hi, it's Charlie, OAR's Ambassador of Happiness. I've learned that a strong community is made up of people who look out for one another, lend a paw when they can, and make sure everyone knows they belong. There are lots of ways to make a difference, and sometimes the smallest act of kindness can mean more than you know.

-Charlie

Give With Confidence



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