



336 Victory Drive
 Herndon, VA 20170
 (703) 391-0105
 www.HerndonRestonFISH.org

HERNDON-RESTON FISH, INC.

Providing local residents with Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help since 1969

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012
 July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012**

FY 2012 Highlights

FAMILY ASSISTANCE

During FY 2012, FISH assisted a total of 2,007 families (4,818 people), gave emergency financial assistance to 1,144 families, and helped 195 families by providing them with used furniture and/or other household necessities. In total almost \$270,000 was given to Herndon and Reston residents to meet the following needs:

Rent Assistance	\$118,112	Holiday Food & Gift Baskets	5,760
Utility Assistance	130,873	Miscellaneous (includes gasoline, food)	4,421
Medical Expenses	10,633		

In FY 2012 volunteer drivers provided 268 rides for the elderly and other needy individuals for their medical appointments, at no cost to FISH. Although we were able to provide more rides than last year, FISH still needs to recruit more volunteer drivers.

FISH collected, assembled, and distributed Thanksgiving food baskets for 362 people and December holiday food and gift baskets for 462 people. Over 548 volunteer hours were spent working on these two projects in coordination with other human service providers in Fairfax County. Thanks again to Robyn Kampf for an excellent job in coordinating this program and thanks also to Volunteer Fairfax for providing volunteers to collect food from donors outside of participating Giant grocery stores.

FUND RAISING AND EVENTS

The *FISH Fling Gala and Fundraiser* was held May 19 and “netted” FISH almost \$52,000. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly on the event. FISH also participated in two Alternative Gift Markets sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Church and the Giving Circle of Hope. Board members spoke at various community groups and attended many networking events and seminars in the area. FISH continues to be active in the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce. FISH participated in the Reston Town Center Holiday Parade and The Taste of Reston this year. Our acceptance into the Commonwealth of Virginia’s Neighborhood Assistance Program continued to substantially increase the dollar amount of donations from individuals.

FISH continued to apply for grant funding and received the following grants in FY 2012:

Fairfax County Community Funding Pool	The Closet
United Way Community Impact Fund	RealNetworks Foundation
Financial Investments, Inc.	MAXIMUS
John & Hilda Arnold Foundation	Sallie Mae Fund
Nelson J & Katherine Friant Post Foundation	Gannett Foundation
Dominion Foundation	St. Mark Catholic Church
The Giving Circle of Hope	

The Bradley Farm Haunted House once again donated their proceeds to FISH and *The Family of Man Council* at St. John Neumann Parish donated proceeds from their pancake breakfast to FISH.



CFC – No. 83534



United Way – No. 8359



Fairfax County CCFP

Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc. is a volunteer, nonsectarian, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation.



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INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

The FISH Family Assistance Information and Referral Service, funded by a grant from the Fairfax County Consolidated Community Funding Pool, received on average over 100 calls daily. The Information and Referral Service personnel, who maintain a comprehensive database of available resources, referred many of the callers to appropriate public and/or private agencies. They also collected pertinent information from each caller who appeared to meet FISH’s eligibility requirements. Those callers were then referred to the Assistance Volunteer on duty for further assessment and financial assistance if needed. Many requests for assistance are made directly to FISH by Fairfax County social workers on behalf of their clients.

Additionally, the Information & Referral Service personnel made all arrangements for rides to medical appointments, which were provided by volunteers; and they also managed the scheduling for Fish’s Financial Workshops.

ASSISTANCE VOLUNTEERS

Almost 30 volunteers, under the leadership of Inga Marler, help clients who are referred to them by FISH’s Information and Referral Service. Working from their homes, they have direct phone contact with the clients. The Assistance Volunteer gathers the appropriate facts concerning each request for help; verifies the information by contacting the landlord, utility company or other creditor; makes all other appropriate inquiries; and then decides whether they qualify for help from FISH. If assistance is to be provided, checks are normally sent to the creditor within 24 hours. These volunteers helped over 1,144 families in FY 2012.

FINANCIAL WORKSHOPS

FISH Financial Education Workshops, in partnership with Fairfax County Human Services and Reston Interfaith, continue to be successful. FISH volunteer Don Owens teaches monthly workshops for English speaking clients and Viveka Fuenzalida teaches quarterly workshops for Spanish speakers. FISH’s Information and Referral Service schedules the English-speaking client referrals and Reston Interfaith assists in scheduling those clients who speak Spanish. Reston Interfaith also arranges for baby sitters for each class. 309 clients completed the classes in FY 2012.

BARGAIN LOFT OPERATION

The Bargain Loft and its many dedicated volunteers continue to work successfully to provide a steady source of income for FISH Family Assistance. Generous amounts of gently used furniture, household goods, art, books, antiques, collectibles, women’s clothing, and many other items were donated by the general public. Barbara Williams and April Elliott were hired as co-managers for The Bargain Loft and are doing an excellent job in their new roles.

REVENUES

Sources of revenue for the Assistance Program in FY 2012 were:

Fx Co Community Funding Pool	\$85,300	Special Events	59,651 (net)
Individuals	76,184	United Way/ American Charities	23,604
The Bargain Loft	72,000	Organizations and Businesses	18,825
Grants	63,200	Churches	10,420



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