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HERNDON-RESTON FISH, INC.

Providing local residents with Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help since 1969

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013
 July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013**

FY 2013 Highlights

FAMILY ASSISTANCE

During FY 2013, FISH assisted a total of 1,962 families (4,946 people), gave emergency financial assistance to 1,022 families, and helped 196 families by providing them with used furniture and/or other household necessities. In total over \$268,000 was given to Herndon and Reston residents to meet the following needs:

Rent Assistance	\$123,009	Holiday Food & Gift Baskets	\$9,395
Utility Assistance	121,293	Miscellaneous (includes gasoline, food)	3,246
Medical Expenses	11,252		

In FY 2013, Jim O'Donnell coordinated our volunteer drivers who provided 314 rides to medical appointments for the elderly and other needy individuals. These rides, funded by our volunteer drivers, are given to clients at no cost to FISH.

FISH collected, assembled, and distributed Thanksgiving food baskets for 628 people and December holiday food and gift baskets for 669 people. Over 400 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 our volunteers who collected food from donors at participating Giant Food Stores and Safeway.

FUND RAISING AND EVENTS

The *FISH Fling Gala and Fundraiser* was held April 20 and “netted” over \$51,000. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly on the event. FISH also participated in the Alternative Gift Markets sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston. 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 and is a member of Nonprofit NOVA. FISH participated in the Reston Town Center Holiday Parade, the Unitarian Universalist Alternative Gift Market, The Bradley Farms Haunted House and The Taste of Reston this past FY 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 2013:

Fairfax County Community Funding Pool	Nelson J. & Katherine Friant Post Foundation
United Way Community Impact Fund	Kendall Philanthropic Gift Fund
Community Foundation for Northern VA	MAXIMUS Foundation
Dominion Foundation	Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
The Giving Circle of Hope	M&T Bank
John Edward Fowler Memorial Foundation	The Closet
John & Hilda Arnold Foundation	

Other major funders included: The Bradley Farm Haunted House, Reston Community Center, Baywood Hotels, Sallie Mae, NRTC, Griffin-Owens & Assoc., Rotary Club of Herndon, Exxon Mobil Foundation, United Christian Parish, St. John Neumann Catholic Church, Verizon Foundation, Virginia Heritage Bank, and Volkswagen Group of America.



CFC – No. 83534



United Way – No. 8359



Fairfax County CCFP

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

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 nearly 3,200 calls in FY 2013. 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.

ASSISTANCE VOLUNTEERS

Almost 30 volunteers, under the leadership of Inga Marler and Diane Mandel, 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 1,022 families in FY 2013.

FINANCIAL WORKSHOPS

FISH Financial Literacy Workshops, in partnership with Fairfax County Human Services and Cornerstones, 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 Cornerstones assists in scheduling those clients who speak Spanish. Cornerstones also arranges for baby sitters for each class. 210 clients completed the classes in FY 2013. Clients receiving FISH assistance are required to attend the class as a condition of future assistance from FISH.

BARGAIN LOFT OPERATION

The Bargain Loft and its over 80 dedicated volunteers continue to work successfully to provide a steady source of income for FISH Family Assistance. These volunteers price each incoming item, stock shelves, wait on customers, deliver furniture and do dozens of other tasks every day. This FY, The Bargain Loft brought in over \$163,000 in income, \$91,500 of which was transferred to the Family Assistance Program. 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 are co-managers for The Bargain Loft.

Gale Napoliello, FISH’s Executive Director, keeps busy coordinating activities, networking in the community and generally keeping an eye on all of FISH’s operations to be sure everything is running smoothly. FISH has recently acquired office space within the premises of Cornerstones, so we now have an office to call our own!

REVENUES

Sources of revenue for the Assistance Program in FY 2013 were:

Fx Co Community Funding Pool	\$104,000	Special Events	\$51,390
Individuals	69,861	United Way/ American Charities	19,428
The Bargain Loft	91,500	Organizations and Businesses	17,279
Grants	87,250	Churches	10,864

NEWLY ELECTED BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FY 2014

COMMUNITY DIRECTORS:

- Janet Hyman, President
- Suzanne P. M. Rudiselle, Vice President
- Evea Newsom, Vice President
- Karen Stevens, Secretary
- Jody Wolfe, Treasurer
- Frank Abrams
- JoAnn Bordeaux
- Steve Brown
- Mia Merin
- Ed Robichaud
- Robert Reed
- Susan Sather
- Olivia M. Toatley
- Kay Walter

CORPORATE DIRECTORS:

- Jay Bhalla, Crowne Plaza Hotel
- Peggy LeReche, Dominion
- Carl Larsen, M&T Bank
- Felicia Roney, NRTC
- Kimberly Wilson, Sallie Mae
- Jennifer Davis Heffner, Vita Images Photography