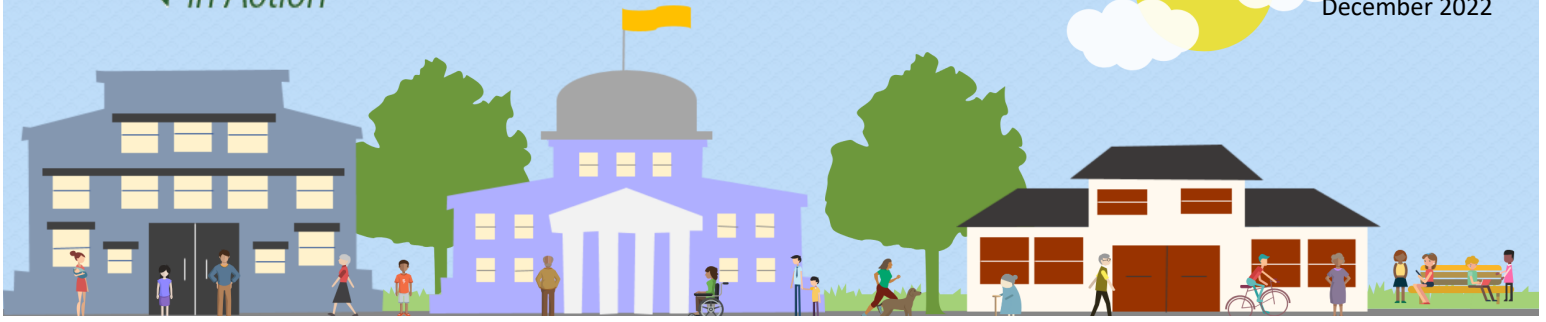




# Common Ground

A Newsletter for the Interfaith Community

December 2022



## Fairfax County Updates COVID-19 Vaccination Center Schedules

COVID-19 vaccination clinics located at the Government Center and Hyland South County Center will be open for three days each week. See [Fairfax County Updates COVID-19 Vaccination Center Schedules](#) for new schedule are strongly encouraged, there may be wait times for walk-in service.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) expanded its recommendation for the use of the updated bivalent COVID-19 vaccines boosters for children ages 5-11 years. Please see [Pediatric COVID-19 Bivalent Vaccine Booster: Authorized and Coming Soon | Fairfax County Emergency Information \(wpcomstaging.com\)](#) for more information.

See the county [RSV web page](#) with facts, content and shareables about the illness.

Vaccination is the single best way to reduce the risk of seasonal flu and its potentially serious complications. [Flu web page](#)

## FCIA EVENT SAVE THE DATE!!!

**Human Services Overview and Economic Mobility  
Tuesday January 17th, 2023 7-8:30pm**



This event will be held virtually. Please [Register](#) to receive Zoom Link

In case you missed the November FCIA Meeting, please see the presentation on Mental Health and Wellbeing here: [Community Interfaith Coordination | Neighborhood and Community Services \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#)

## EQUITY

Each month, a different aspect of equity will be addressed.  
**Focus for December: Implicit Bias**



According to Merriam-Webster, implicit bias “is a bias or prejudice that is present but not consciously held or recognized.” Implicit bias affects our behaviors, judgement, and decisions. In order to address implicit bias, we must be intentional about identifying our own biases and one way to do this is to take an Implicit Association Test (IAT). This test can help you understand what your implicit biases are and suggest ways for countering them. An example of an IAT is the Harvard Implicit Association Test: [Project Implicit \(harvard.edu\)](#), This is one way to begin to reduce inequities and barriers as we strive to increase racial and social equity in our community.

### Safety and Security

#### **INFORMATIONAL OUTREACH INVITATION--Nonprofit Security Grant Program - Webinar**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Grant Programs Directorate, the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and the DHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, jointly invite all interested 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations to a Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) Informational Webinar virtual event to provide a look-back on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 NSGP, and look-ahead for the prospective FY 2023 NSGP. You Must Register in Advance, click the date for a form: [December 8, 2022, 3:00 PM](#) OR [December 13, 2022, 3:00 PM](#)

#### **Fairfax County Police-Sully District-Hidden in Plain Sight (HIPS)**

Monday, December 12th, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Liberty Middle School (6801 Union Mill Road, Clifton, VA, 20124) Register Here: <https://bit.ly/libertyhips22> . This is a hands-on learning adventure for PARENTS AND GUARDIANS ONLY! The Hidden in Plain Sight (HIPS) program is an IN-PERSON interactive program for adults to be educated about the signs of risky behavior in teens and young adults. It touches on drug and alcohol use, vaping, mental health and behavioral concerns, risky sexual behaviors, trending "challenges" and more.

#### **Etch & Prevent-Catalytic Converter Theft**

The Fairfax County Police Crime Prevention Unit from the Sully District Station has partnered with G&C Tire and Auto Service to offer free CATETCH/CATGUARD Anti-Theft Labels which are applied to your catalytic converter. Read more on how it works at <https://www.mastergard.com/catetch-labels>. Priuses, Tacomas, Lexus SUVs, Accords, and vans are some of the most targeted.

**Saturday, December 10, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. G&C Tire and Auto Service (14008 Willard Road, Chantilly).** First come, first serve. No appointment necessary . For more information email [Megan.Hawkins@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Megan.Hawkins@fairfaxcounty.gov) .

#### **Gift Card Drive-Fairfax County Police Department**

Now through Friday, December 16, 2022, FCPD is seeking gift cards for our child victims (both young and teenagers) to places like Giant, Amazon, Safeway, Walmart, TJ Maxx, Target, Kohl's, local restaurants, and clothing stores. Gift cards will allow parents/guardians to be active participants in purchasing gifts for each child and practical needed items that they would normally go without. November 11th-December 16th. Please drop off or mail gift cards to 12099 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035. For more information, contact Saly Fayeze at [saly.fayeze@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:saly.fayeze@fairfaxcounty.gov) or 703-246-2465.

### Health and Wellness

#### **Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax**

The [Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax annual meeting](#) is on Wednesday, December 7. 2:00pm-4:15pm. The educational program will be "Deeply Rooted: How History Connects to the Health of Our Community Past, Present and Future." To register: [Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax 2022 Annual Meeting Tickets, Wed, Dec 7, 2022 at 2:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

#### **SAVE A LIFE! Red Cross Blood Drive, Vienna**

**Monday, December 12.** Appointments available: 10:00 – 4:00 Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, Vienna, VA 22180. To register: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=HCVienna>

#### **REVIVE! Training**

The [Community Services Board](#) has partnered with the [Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services](#) to launch **REVIVE!** which trains individuals on what to do and not do in an overdose situation, how to administer naloxone, and what to do afterwards. Each attendee also receives a free REVIVE! kit, which includes all the supplies needed to administer naloxone. The medication itself can be acquired at a pharmacy after completing the training. Attendees also receive a safety plan to help individuals prevent overdose if they relapse. For more information and to register, click [REVIVE!](#)

#### **Real Talk: Mental Health Mondays**

Join Urban Strategies Council for a candid conversation about mental health in the black community. This is a safe virtual space to share and receive valuable mental health resources. Join them as they hear directly from people with lived experience as well as professionals. To Register: [Real Talk: Mental Health Mondays Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#)

#### **NAACP Blood Drive-Reston Community Center**

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment. If you have **questions about your eligibility**, please call **1-866-236-3276**. Click [HERE](#) to schedule your appointment.



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To request reasonable ADA accommodations, please contact 703-324-4600, TTY 711.

Faith Communities in Action is supported by the  
[Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services](#)



### Community Resources

#### **The Workforce Innovation Skills Hub (WISH)**

The WISH is a first of its kind workforce development center and business incubator designed to connect Fairfax County residents with employment that pays a minimum starting salary of \$20 per-hour. The WISH is co-located within the Hybla Valley Community Center, and prioritizes serving residents in adjacent communities who are among the most historically disadvantaged in Fairfax County. The WISH provides training and certifications to those who wish to pursue careers in the skilled trades, healthcare, and technology sectors. It also provides critical wraparound and case management services to ensure that WISH clients have the tools they need to complete their training and break into the middle class. To learn more about the WISH, or get connected with the center directly please reach out to Supervisor Lusk's Chief of Staff at [Matthew.Renninger@FairfaxCounty.gov](mailto:Matthew.Renninger@FairfaxCounty.gov).

#### **NCS Senior Centers Give Back through Annual Winter Warming Service Project**

The annual Fairfax County Senior Centers' Winter Warming Service Project collects new or handmade hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for adults, children and infants in Fairfax County. Donated items are given to local nonprofit organizations. Donations of new or handmade items and yarn can be made now through Jan. 6 at all 14 NCS Senior Centers in Fairfax County; look for the donation box in the entry/lobby.

#### **Virtual Caregiver Support Call- Caregiver Self-Care and Using Humor as a Survival Tool**

Caregiving can be challenging and combined with caregivers often putting others ahead of themselves, burnout has the potential for being a real concern. Let's talk about ways we can build our physical and emotional resilience and use humor for both your and the care recipient's well-being. Tuesday, December 13 | 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Online Registration: <https://bit.ly/ELinkCall>

#### **Project Nourish: How Food Fuels Health, Happiness and Connection**

Learn how food impacts mental, emotional, physical and spiritual health and what you can do to build a positive mindset and habits around food, preparing it and sharing it. Light refreshments to be served. Meeting in person at the Chantilly Regional Library. Online Registration: <https://bit.ly/FoodFuelsHealth>

### Community Involvement

#### **Consolidated Community Funding Pool Category Setting Survey-Open Until January 3, 2023**

The funding allocated to organizations through the CCFP serves as an investment and catalyst for strengthening the human services network of programs available for Fairfax County residents. Your participation in this [survey](#) will help to inform members of the CCFAC of needs in the community as they prepare for the next Consolidated Community Funding Pool cycle. It is so important that we hear from diverse perspectives. The survey is available in 6 languages and can be shared by this link: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FFX\\_CCFP\\_25-26](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FFX_CCFP_25-26). To learn more about the process please visit [Consolidated Community Funding Pool - Funding Process | Procurement and Material Management \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#).

#### **Foster and Adoptive Parents Needed**

Have you considered becoming a foster/adoptive parent? Would you like to learn more about the [children and teens](#) in our county who are waiting for homes? Nearly 200 children in Fairfax County are in foster care, and we have a pressing need for more foster parents for children ages 11-17, children with special needs, and sibling groups of three or more. Families (single or multigenerational) that are willing to be flexible, have fun, maintain structure and consistency are welcome to inquire about becoming foster parents and growing their families. "There are no unwanted children, just unfound families." [Learn more](#) about becoming a foster parent in Fairfax.

#### **Adopt-A-Family Holiday Program**

Looking for ways to give during the holiday season? Become a donor with the Fairfax County Department of Family Services' Adopt-A-Family program to make the season brighter for children and families in need in our community. If your family, business, company, organization or faith-based group is interested in helping to support a family experiencing difficult times during the holidays, please email Emily Swenson at [dfsadoptafamily@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:dfsadoptafamily@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-324-6898. To learn more, visit <https://bit.ly/DFS-CYF-VPS-AAF>

#### **Volunteer with the Body Safety Program**

The Department of Family Services needs volunteer Body Safety instructors to help provide elementary students with the tools they need to prevent or interrupt child abuse and exploitation. If you are available during the day, feel comfortable in a classroom, and want to empower children, this opportunity is for you! Facilitators are trained. Contact Francesca Lovitt by email at [Francesca.Lovitt@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Francesca.Lovitt@fairfaxcounty.gov), call 703-324-7459 or visit <https://bit.ly/DFS-VPS-BS-V>

# Common Ground

A Newsletter for the Interfaith Community

## Community Bulletin Board

The following public announcements are for interfaith meetings and activities sponsored by organizations within the community and are not specifically endorsed or sponsored by Fairfax County. These announcements are provided as a public service in the interest of expanding interfaith dialogue and goodwill. If you have an announcement you would like to share, please contact

[NCSinterfaith@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:NCSinterfaith@fairfaxcounty.gov)

### **Remembering Sandy Hook: 10 Years Later-Save the Date-CALL FOR CLERGY WITNESS SIGNUP Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax**

December 14, 2022, marks 10 years since the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT. On the 14th of every month since that day, gun violence prevention advocates have held vigils in front of the National Rifle Association to honor those killed at Sandy Hook and in hundreds of other mass shootings and to move the NRA and Congress to act for sane gun laws. The vigil on December 14, 2022, 10 am will have several roles for religious leaders. If willing to or considering participation, please scan or click the QR code for more information and to register.



### **Lord of Life ESL Classes**

Spring 2023 ESL CLASSES. Online registration opens on December 15, 2022. Classes run January 26 - March 30, 2023. Tuesdays & Thursdays 7:00 - 9:00 PM. Placement Test January 17, 7:00 PM. The placement test and all classes will be in-person at: Lord of Life Lutheran Church 5114 Twinbrook Rd. Fairfax, VA 22032 Register: <https://lordoflifeva.org/esl>

### **Solidarity Cup of Tea**

Monthly on the 3rd Saturday. 2pm-4pm. Dar Al Hijrah Library, 3159 Row St. Falls Church, 22044. Women and men of all faiths welcome! Call to learn more: 703-536-1030 or visit our website at [Dar Al-Hijrah](http://DarAlHijrah) .

### **Interfaith Communities For Dialogue (ICD)-The Role of Religion and Culture in Our Society**

ICD Presents a 3-Part Series to discuss Faith and Culture in American Society. The first event in this series is: The Role of Religion & Culture in Our Society. **January 15th, 4 PM - 6 PM** via Zoom. Register by Jan. 8 <https://tinyurl.com/2jpmxtke>. For more information: Email: [interfaithcd@gmail.com](mailto:interfaithcd@gmail.com).



**Faith Communities**  
*in Action*