



# Community Interfaith Liaison E-Newsletter

May 2005 – Issue #25

The Community Interfaith Liaison E-Newsletter is a publication of the Fairfax County Community Interfaith Liaison Office (CIL) providing Fairfax County faith communities and faith- and community-based organizations with current news about human services and community strengthening resources, workshops, events, and community coordinated initiatives that support the mission of Fairfax County Government.

If you have questions about an upcoming event, wish to submit information for possible inclusion, or would like to receive more information regarding an event that has already taken place, please send an e-mail to [ciluser@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:ciluser@fairfaxcounty.gov). If you would like to be removed from the Community Interfaith Liaison E-Newsletter, please send an e-mail with the word "Unsubscribe" in the subject line. For more information on the Community Interfaith Liaison Office, please visit our website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/service/dsm/cil/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/service/dsm/cil/).

*Sandra Chisholm  
Community Interfaith Liaison*

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## Feature Article

### May is Mental Health Month ...

Did you know ...

- Depression is a common disease and a critical public health issue, affecting more than 120 million people worldwide and almost 10% of the population in the United States alone.
- Suicide claims the lives of about 30,000 people each year in the United States alone.
- The suicide rate is highest among the elderly, especially among single white men age 85 and over.
- The suicide rate has risen more than 200% in the last 50 years among youth between the ages of 15 and 24 – and is now the leading cause of death in that age group.
- Nearly two-thirds of high school students report having considered suicide at some point. In the Commonwealth of Virginia alone, an average of one middle or high school student dies by suicide per week.
- About every two hours, a young person kills himself or herself. (American Association of Suicidology, 2002)

The World Health Organization reports that by the year 2020, depression will rank as the illness that represents the world's single largest cost to society. Left undiagnosed or untreated, too many people who suffer from depression go on to attempt or complete suicide. Research has shown that spiritual practice can help maintain good overall health, and that a strong sense of spirituality can be a vital factor in a person's recovery from mental illness.

This past February, the Community Interfaith Liaison Office convened a group of faith community leaders to meet with the Fairfax Partnership for Youth's (FPY) Community Taskforce on Youth Suicide and Depression. The intent of the meeting was to discuss how FPY might be able to work with and learn from the faith community with regard to better protecting the mental health and wellness of our young people and their families.

In support of Mental Health Month, participants thought it would be helpful to encourage faith group leaders to incorporate mental health messages and initiatives in their May activities. Thus, the idea of an [Interfaith Mental Health Toolkit](#) was born. The purpose of this [Toolkit](#) is to heighten awareness about the importance of mental health for people of all ages and to reduce the stigma

associated with mental illness. The Toolkit includes suggested activities for addressing mental health in program planning, talking points, signs and symptoms information, advice on talking about suicide, sample sermons and resource information. Please review these helpful materials and share them with others. Feel free to modify them as needed and incorporate the messages into your own communications. Take the test below and check out page 15 of the [Toolkit](#) for the answers.

It is our hope that you will use these materials this May in promoting mental health as a vital aspect of total wellness in the communities with which you work.



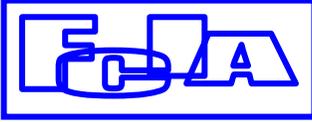
## FACTS AND FABLES

### WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE?

	TRUE	FALSE
1. Only adults can get truly depressed.		
2. Depression is a weakness.		
3. Depression is mostly a white, middle class problem.		
4. People who are depressed always feel sad.		
5. People who talk about suicide don't kill themselves.		
6. There's really nothing you can do to help someone who's truly suicidal.		
7. Discussing suicide may cause someone to consider it or make things worse.		
8. Telling someone to cheer up usually helps.		
9. It's best to keep someone's suicidal feelings a secret.		
10. If someone promises to seek help, your job is done.		

Interfaith Mental Health Toolkit  
 Copyright © 2002 Fact and Fables Worksheet

## Faith Communities in Action



Fairfax County Faith Communities in Action (FCIA) is a network of faith communities, community-based organizations, and government agencies that fosters interfaith communications and cooperation to build and strengthen human services resources throughout Fairfax County.

### Faith Communities in Action (FCIA) Meeting Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Government Center Conference Center  
12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA

#### Pre Meeting & Brown Bag Lunch

1 pm to 1:45 pm  
Conference Room 8

**TOPIC:** Affordable Housing – Are SRO's\* an Answer?  
How Can Faith Communities Become Involved?

\*SRO = Single Resident Occupancy Apartments  
SRO Initiative Updates, Zoning Considerations & Affordable  
Housing Trust Fund

Speaker: Pam Gannon SRO Task Force Chair

Bring your lunch – beverage and cookies provided.

#### FCIA Meeting

2 p.m. – 4 p.m.  
Conference Rooms 2 & 3

**TOPIC:** Mental Health Illness Across the Lifespan  
How are mental health issues impacting our  
community? Should the community be concerned?  
How can mental health resources be access?

Speakers:

- Partnership for Youth
- Crisis Link
- National Alliance for the Mentally Ill
- Fairfax Falls Church Community Services Board

**Part I: Training – Understanding Mental Illness in  
Our Local Community  
(Including Teen Depression and Suicide)  
Jennifer Heffron ~ Partnership for Youth  
Mary Azoy ~ Crisis Link**

**Part II: Resources for Individuals and Families  
Community Services Board  
National Alliance for the Mentally Ill**

**ALSO, reports from the Emergency Preparedness, At Risk Youth, Tolerance and Respect, Affordable Housing FCIA Task Forces. Special presentation from the Community Services Board regarding their new Jail Diversion initiative for persons with a mental illness or abusing drugs and alcohol.**

**Bring project or event news from your faith community or organization to share. Come ready to network.**

**RSVP: Maggie Scott – (703) 324-3453**

## Events...Workshops...Conferences

Wednesday, May 4, 2005

Fairfax Area Agency on Aging presents ...

Humor for the Caregiver's Soul  
Wednesday, May 4, 2005  
12 Noon – 1 p.m.

Pennino Building  
12011 Government Center Parkway  
Virginia Room, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Fairfax, VA

This is part of the Spring 2005 Series of the Seminars for Caregivers of Older Adults. Laughter is the best medicine. Humor is a healthy way to provide perspective on life's difficult experiences. Learn how to let humor help you survive the everyday challenges of caregiving. Presenters: Sue Stone, Outreach Coordinator, Alzheimer's Family Day Center.

These seminars are sponsored by the Fairfax Caregiver Seminar Consortium (FCSC) with funding from the National Family Caregiver Support Program. Free but registration is recommended. Call 703-324-5205 and leave your name, phone number, and the name of the session you plan to attend.

Thursday May 5 – Saturday, May 7, 2005

National Network of Youth Ministries presents ...

Pursuing Faith-Based Funding

Thursday, May 5 – Saturday, May 7, 2005

Washington, DC

The National Network of Youth Ministries, in cooperation with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), will hold the National Faith-Based Mentoring Forum. The forum will focus on training, interactive roundtable discussions, and networking. Registration fee information and more details are available online at [www.mentoryouth.com](http://www.mentoryouth.com) or call toll free to 887-500-MENTOR.

Saturday, May 7, 2005

Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington presents ...

Faith, Values, and Capital Punishment in Virginia 2005

Saturday, May 7, 2005

10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Luncheon Speaker: Bishop Walter F. Sullivan

Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington

4444 Arlington Boulevard

Arlington, VA

A coalition-building conference for activists in the faith community and beyond. Learn more about the death penalty in Virginia. Hear inspirational speakers, including an exoneree. Share organizing tips and express your priorities. Meet movement leaders while enjoying a tasty lunch. Co-sponsored by UUCA's Task Force to Abolish the Death Penalty and the Northern Virginia Chapter of Virginians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty. Registration fee of \$15. Contact Paul Blackburn at 571-633-1799 or [pekheng@msn.com](mailto:pekheng@msn.com) or Albert Monroe at 703-587-5889 or [altertmonroe75@yahoo.com](mailto:altertmonroe75@yahoo.com) or register online at [www.vadp.org](http://www.vadp.org).

Monday, May 9, 2005

Fairfax Area Agency on Aging presents ...

Navigating the Legal and Medicaid Maze of Long-Term Care

Monday, May 9, 2005

7 – 8:30 p.m.

Alzheimer's Family Day Center  
2812 Old Lee Highway, Suite 210  
Fairfax, VA

This is part of the Spring 2005 Series of the Seminars for Caregivers of Older Adults. Legal planning during a period of care including Durable Powers of Attorney, Trusts, Living Wills, Guardianship, and Conservatorship. How, when, and where to apply for Medicaid and what needs to be provided to determine eligibility. Presenters: Jean Galloway Ball, Elder Law Attorney; Gail Hansen, Long-Term Care Benefits Supervisor for Fairfax County Department of Family Services.

These seminars are sponsored by the Fairfax Caregiver Seminar Consortium (FCSC) with funding from the National Family Caregiver Support Program. Free

but registration is recommended. Call 703-324-5205 and leave your name, phone number, and the name of the session you plan to attend.

Thursday, May 12, 2005

S.T.A.R.S. presents ...

Understanding the Language of Children

Thursday, May 12, 2005

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Featuring: Anne Graffam Walker, PhD, Forensic Linguist

Ida Lee Recreation Center

Leesburg, VA

A training for child advocates, child protective service workers, guidance counselors, judges, lawyers, law enforcement, and therapists. Sexual Abuse Treatment and Referral Services (STARS) is a collaborative effort of the Loudoun County Department of Social Services, Loudoun County Mental Health Services, Graydon Manor, and LCSJ Sexual Assault Services to provide assistance to families who are affected by sexual abuse. Dr. Walker is an internationally known forensic linguist who specializes in courtroom communication. For more information about the conference, please call 703-771-9020. Space is limited to 150 participants, so [please register early](#). Registration fee is \$35.

Saturday, May 14, 2005

Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board presents ...

6<sup>th</sup> Annual Girl Power Conference

Saturday, May 14, 2005

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

South County Government Center

8350 Richmond Highway

Alexandria, VA

This sixth annual conference will bring girls together to strengthen their foundations. The workshops offered represent the building blocks needed to address the concepts of physical, mental, and social health for young women. This year's theme is "Building Healthy Girls Inside and Out." Attendance is free of charge, but registration is required. If you are interested in bringing a group of girls from your faith community or organization, please contact Clara Marshall,

Prevention Coordinator, Fairfax-Falls Church CSB at 703-704-6046 or [clara.marshall@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:clara.marshall@fairfaxcounty.gov).

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Fairfax Area Agency on Aging presents ...

Mental Health Issues in Aging

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

South County Government Center

8350 Richmond Highway

Alexandria, VA

Learn about common mental health issues of the elderly and how these conditions present in this population. Also learn when to seek professional help and how to access resources. Limited respite care will be available at this session. Please call 703-704-6050 to reserve a spot.

Presenters: Joella Rhoades, LPC, and David Gebara, Psychiatrist. These seminars are sponsored by the Fairfax Caregiver Seminar Consortium (FCSC) with funding from the National Family Caregiver Support Program. Free but registration is recommended. Call 703-324-5205 and leave your name, phone number, and the name of the session you plan to attend.

Wednesday, May 18, and Thursday May 19, 2005

The Jacobs Institute of Women's Health presents ...

Expecting Something Better:

A Conference to Optimize Maternal Health Care

May 18 & 19, 2005

Westin Grand Hotel

Washington, DC

This conference is a working group meeting intended for experts in maternal health. The role of attendees is to be part of working groups that develop recommendations to improve health care. Who should attend? Maternal health care researchers and providers, public health officials, maternal and child health organizations, policymakers, health care industry professionals, and provider and hospital organizations. For more information, visit [www.jiwh.org](http://www.jiwh.org).

Sunday, May 22, 2005

Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna presents ...

Hexagon Fundraiser  
Washington's Political, Musical, Comedy Review

Sunday, May 22, 2005 at 2:30pm

James Madison High School  
2500 James Madison Drive, Vienna, VA

The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna hosts their third annual fundraiser, presenting Hexagon, May 22, 2005 at 2:30pm. Join us to support the Shepherd's Center and enjoy a fun afternoon with "Levity and Jesting for All." The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna is a nonprofit organization helping older adults to live more independent and meaningful lives. Tickets are \$20. To order tickets by mail call 703-281-0538 by May 17<sup>th</sup> or purchase tickets at the door.

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

Fairfax Area Agency on Aging presents ...

Avoiding Financial Pitfalls when Paying for Long-Term Care  
Wednesday, May 25, 2005  
7 - 8:30 p.m.

Lewinsville Adult Day Health Care Center  
1609 Great Falls St.  
McLean, VA

This is part of the Spring 2005 Series of the Seminars for Caregivers of Older Adults. Discussion about cash flow planning, asset management, and liquidation strategies while paying for long-term care. Presenters: Mary Anne Ibach & Tom West, Financial Planners.

These seminars are sponsored by the Fairfax Caregiver Seminar Consortium (FCSC) with funding from the National Family Caregiver Support Program. Free but registration is recommended. Call 703-324-5205 and leave your name, phone number, and the name of the session you plan to attend.

Tuesday, June 7, 2005

Fairfax Area Agency on Aging presents ...

Home is No Longer an Option: Now What?

Tuesday, June 7, 2005

7 – 8:30 p.m.

Herndon Senior Center

873 Grace St.

Herndon, VA

This is part of the Spring 2005 Series of the Seminars for Caregivers of Older Adults. Finding residential care for your family member can be a difficult and emotionally draining experience. This program will help you determine what to look for in a residential facility and how to sort through the maze of retirement communities, assisted living, group homes, and skilled nursing facilities.

Presenters: Karen Love, CCAL, and a representative from Housing and Community Development.

These seminars are sponsored by the Fairfax Caregiver Seminar Consortium (FCSC) with funding from the National Family Caregiver Support Program. Free but registration is recommended. Call 703-324-5205 and leave your name, phone number, and the name of the session you plan to attend.

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Fairfax County Department of Family Services presents ...

GoodTouch/Bad Touch®

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

8922 Little River Turnpike

Fairfax, VA

Thursday, June 9, 2005

6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Faith communities are invited to an evening session to learn about the Good Touch/Bad Touch® curriculum on Thursday, June 9, 2005, from 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. The program is being offered by the Fairfax County Department of Family Services (DFS) Prevention Unit.

What is Good Touch/Bad Touch®? Good Touch/Bad Touch® is a child abuse prevention 6<sup>th</sup> Grade curriculum designed for pre-school and

kindergarten through sixth-grade students. It is a tool to teach children special skills they need to stay safe in an increasingly violent world. Good Touch/Bad Touch® curriculum is positive and research based. It meets stringent educational criteria and has been field tested with hundreds of children and more than 5,500 educators.

Children learn how to:

- Prevent or interrupt abuse, including sexual abuse.
- Deal with bullies.
- Effectively handle sad or angry feelings.
- Stay safe from strangers who may cause them harm.

The June 9 session has been structured to teach faith community clergy, youth education staff, and lay persons about the Good Touch/Bad Touch® curriculum content, design, printed materials, instruction aids, and classroom videos. At this session, attendees may schedule a Department of Family Services Good Touch/Bad Touch® class for one of their youth groups this summer or fall. Attendees who desire to become Good Touch/Bad Touch® certified instructors may also register for upcoming classes. There are fees for certification instructor classes; however, DFS is seeking grant funds for these tuition expenses. More information will follow.

To register for the FREE June 9 Good Touch/Bad Touch® curriculum information session for faith communities and FREE Department of Family Services Good Touch/Bad Touch® youth class for your faith community please call 703 324 3453.

[Thursday, June 9, and Friday, June 10, 2005](#)

[Metro DC Alliance to Combat Trafficking and Slavery presents ...](#)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Regional Conference on Human Trafficking:  
For Service Providers & First Responders**

**Thursday, June 9, and Friday, June 10, 2005  
8:30 a.m. – 12 Noon**

**Location: To Be Determined**

The Metro DC Alliance to Combat Trafficking and Slavery, a partnership between Boat People SOS and Ayuda, Inc., would like to announce an upcoming Regional Conference on Human Trafficking. This conference seeks to train local service providers and first responders to identify and serve victims of trafficking and to

develop a regional network of service providers capable of serving victims of human trafficking.

As the conference approaches, registration forms with specific conference details and agenda will be available. For further information, contact Megan Pierce at 703-538-2190.

**Wednesday, June 16, 2005**

**Fairfax Partnership for Youth, CrisisLink and the Virginia Department of Health presents ...**

**Bridging the Gap:**

**An Interfaith Conference on  
Mental Health and Suicide Prevention**

**Keynote Speaker: W. Benjamin Pratt, D. Min.**

**Thursday, June 16, 2005  
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

**St. Matthews United Methodist Church  
8617 Little River Turnpike  
Annandale, VA**

Save the date! For more information, call Jennifer Heffron at 703-440-9799. To register, call Mary Azoy at 703-516-6771.

**Thursday, June 17, 2005**

**Center for Multicultural Human Services presents ...**

**Cross-Cultural Perspectives in Domestic Violence**

**Fairfax County Government Center Conference Center  
12000 Government Center Parkway  
Fairfax, VA**

**Friday, June 17, 2005**

The Center for Multicultural Human Services, in collaboration with Fairfax County Domestic Violence Prevention and Policy Planning Council, Shelter House, Tahirth Justice Center, FAITH, Legal Services of Northern Virginia, Boat People SOS,

Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, Fairfax County Police Department, and The Women's Center presents a day-long conference on cross-cultural perspectives in domestic violence.

Are you a health professional, mental health professional, legal professional, religious leader, social service professional or an educator? If so, this conference is for you. For more information or to register, contact 703-533-3302 ext. 128.

## News, Announcements, & Updates

### ⌘ Want to Be a Part of a Frontline Public Health Emergency Response Team?

Join 3000 of your neighbors who have volunteered to be on the frontline of response to a public health emergency by registering for the Fairfax Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), a program of the Fairfax County Health Department. The MRC is an all volunteer program designed to assist the community after a public health disaster such as a bio-attack or a natural epidemic.

We are seeking responsible, committed volunteers from all professions – medical and non-medical. Over sixty percent of the volunteers needed for the MRC may come from non-medical occupations. Seasoned, experienced managers are urgently needed for incident coordinator, branch directors, volunteer coordinators, and unit leaders. Physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and other health care professionals are also urgently needed. Volunteers receive training regarding the principles of Incident Command and their roles in a medication/vaccine dispensing site. Our recruitment campaign goal is 3,000 new volunteers by June 30, 2005. Volunteer online at [www.fairfaxmrc.org](http://www.fairfaxmrc.org) or call 703-246-2433. Your community needs you!

### ⌘ Fairfax County Announces the Community Emergency Alert Network ...

The Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management and the Office of Public Affairs announce the creation of the Community Emergency Alert Network, or CEAN. The CEAN will be used by county officials to deliver important emergency alerts, notifications, and updates to county residents during a major crisis or emergency. Messages will be delivered to e-mail accounts, cell phones (text messaging costs may apply; check with your service provider), text pagers, satellite phones, and wireless PDAs registered on the system.

Persons registered on the CEAN will be provided a personal connection to real-time updates, instructions on where to go, protective actions that need to be taken, and other important information.

Alerts may include personal safety, weather, major accidents involving utilities or roadways, or disaster notification such as a terrorist attack. In addition, residents may also register for any or all of the additional CEAN alert categories: county government closings/schedule changes, severe traffic disruptions, severe weather 24/7, and severe weather 8 a.m. ~ 5 p.m., Monday ~ Friday.

To register for the Community Emergency Alert Network, visit the Fairfax County Web page, [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cean](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cean). For additional information on the CEAN, contact the Office of Emergency Management at 703-324-2362, TTY 711.

Fairfax County Government offers the CEAN as a public service that will be used in conjunction with other public notification methods, such as cable Channel 16; the Fairfax County Government Web site; the Fairfax County Government Emergency Information Line (703-817-7771, TTY 711); and area media, both radio and television.

### ⌘ Online Application for Food Stamps, Women and Infant Care, and the Emergency Food Assistance Program introduced on April 15 ...

On Friday, April 15, the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) launched an online application system that allows people to apply for Food Stamps, Women and Infant Care (WIC), and the Emergency Food Assistance Program. For more information about this service or to access the online application system, visit [www.vafood.org](http://www.vafood.org).

The VDSS also offers a public assistance online-screening tool that lets families and individuals see if they may be eligible for:

- Food Stamps
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Children's Health Insurance, Medicaid for pregnant women
- Energy assistance
- Childcare
- Medicaid for Medicare Part A beneficiaries, and
- Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) nutrition program

The screening asks a few questions and provides a preliminary answer regarding eligibility for benefits. You may access the screening tool through the Web site referenced above or by visiting [www.dss.state.va.us](http://www.dss.state.va.us) and clicking

on "Am I Eligible for Assistance?" in the right column and following the instructions provided. Completing this questionnaire provides a preliminary screening and does not imply actual eligibility. To apply for benefits and receive a final determination, you must complete an application and be interviewed at your local department of social services.

We hope that you will find these tools useful in assisting those you serve. If you have any questions about this information, please contact Deanna Velasco at [Deanna.velasco@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Deanna.velasco@fairfaxcounty.gov) or by phone at 703-324-7743.

### ⌘ [Fairfax Area Agency on Aging's Meals on Wheels Needs You ...](#)

The Fairfax Area Agency on Aging's Meals on Wheels program is in immediate need of volunteers to deliver meals to clients in the areas of Annandale, Little River Glen, Fairfax, and Tysons Towers.

The job involves picking up meals at specified sites between 10:30 a.m. and noon and ensuring that the meals are delivered to the clients, usually by 1 p.m. Drivers can choose to deliver meals weekly, biweekly, monthly, or to substitute as needed. If you would like more information, please call the Volunteer Intake Line at 703-324-5406, TTY 703-449-1186 or email Christie Elliott at [Christie.Elliott@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Christie.Elliott@fairfaxcounty.gov). For reasonable ADA accommodations, contact Pam Graff at 703-324-5410, TTY 703-449-1186.

### ⌘ [Parent Support Group for Spanish-Speaking Parents ...](#)

SCAN is now offering an ongoing educational parent support group for Spanish-speaking parents every Monday from 11:30 a.m. ~ 1:00 p.m. at Sacramento Neighborhood Center, 8792E Sacramento Drive, Alexandria, VA 22309. The parent support group offers parents an opportunity to reduce isolation, to gain valuable parenting tools and skills, and to meet and talk to other parents from similar backgrounds to build a network of support and friendship.

The program is free and meets every week for an hour and a half. A children's program is offered so parents can bring their children with them. Quarterly workshops are also offered to teach the parents about community resources available to them and their families. Registration is required. Program completion documentation (certificate) is available for mandated/referred parents. Some assistance with transportation is also available. A flyer is attached for your reference. Feel free to print and make copies. For more information, contact Paola Martinez McDonald, Parent Education Coordinator, at 703-836-1820 or [pmartinez@scanva.org](mailto:pmartinez@scanva.org).

## ⌘ BeFriend-A-Parent Mentoring Opportunity ...

Share some of your knowledge and empathy with a parent who would benefit from a mentor. The Fairfax County Department of Family Services is currently recruiting volunteers for our BeFriend-A-Parent Program. This is a great opportunity for seniors and retirees. Caring, change-focused volunteers build a trusting mentor relationship with a Family Service client. You'll listen, learn, and work together on parenting and personal needs and skills. Training and staff support is given. At least a six-month commitment is required; 4-6 hours a month is spent with the client. The next training is set for Monday and Tuesday, June 6 & 7, 6-9 p.m. both evenings, location to be determined. Please contact Laurie Eytel: Volunteer Manager, Children, Youth, and Family Division at: 703-324-7871, [leytel@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:leytel@fairfaxcounty.gov) for more information. For reasonable ADA accommodations, contact Laurie Eytel at 703-324-7871, TTY 703-222-9452.

## ⌘ BeFriend-A-Child Mentoring Opportunity ...

Here's an opportunity to have some fun and make a difference in your community at the same time. For just eight hours a month ~ typically weekends ~ you can be a BeFriend-A-Child volunteer mentor with Fairfax County's Department of Family Services, Child Abuse Prevention Services. Volunteers must be at least 21 years old. Careful screening, training, and coaching are provided.

You'll go on one-to-one outings and take part in group activities, such as bowling, pumpkin carving, performing arts workshops, cookouts, swimming at the water park, and more. The next training for prospective mentors is on Monday and Tuesday, May 16 & 17, 6-9 p.m. in Fairfax. Contact Chuck Berlin at 703-324-7874, or at [Charles.Berlin@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Charles.Berlin@fairfaxcounty.gov) or Ann Rieger, at 703-324-7072 or at [Ann.Rieger@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Ann.Rieger@fairfaxcounty.gov). You can also visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/service/dfs/factsheets/BeFriend.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/service/dfs/factsheets/BeFriend.htm).

Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services, and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations call TTY: 703-222-9452. Please allow seven working days in advance of the event in order to make the necessary arrangements. We have an especially strong need for male and Hispanic mentors. This is also a great opportunity for seniors and retirees. Thanks for considering BeFriend-A-Child mentoring. It's a great opportunity!

## ⌘ Free Youth Leadership Institute for Local High School Students ...

Volunteer Fairfax is pleased to announce plans to host the Points of Light Youth Leadership Institute (PYLI) August 8 – 12 at the Mason District Government Center. The institute is free for local high school students and provides students with a unique combination of leadership and community service skills that prepare them for active roles in improving the quality of life in their community. PYLI is a national program that offers a high caliber of leadership training that is typically unavailable to students this age.

The program is open to students entering grades 10 – 12 who would benefit from the institute and who would take the vital skills they gain back to their respective communities. Students must be able to attend each day of the institute from Monday, August 8, through Friday, August 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. At the end of the institute, students will be charged with the planning and implementation of a service project to be completed on October 22, 2005. Students will be required to attend an additional planning session on September 14 from 7 – 9 p.m. All participants must have transportation to and from the institute and cannot be dropped off early or left later than the institute is scheduled. Interested students may obtain an application from the Web site [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org) or by contacting Emily Swenson at 703-246-3460 or [eswenson@volunteerfairfax.org](mailto:eswenson@volunteerfairfax.org).

## ⌘ Regional Donations for Nonprofits ...

Volunteer Fairfax receives frequent emails about donated items from regional businesses and individuals. In an effort to reduce duplications, we have created a mailing list just for donations. All nonprofits are welcome to sign up to receive these emails by [registering for the Donations Listserv](#).

Volunteer Fairfax has also created an online directory of our registered agencies' needed goods and services. This directory makes donating items to local charities and service agencies as easy as possible. To view the guide, visit our home page at [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org). Premium members can download the registration form from the premium member Web site. Basic members should contact Joy Mapp at [jmapp@volunteerfairfax.org](mailto:jmapp@volunteerfairfax.org) to receive the form.

## Resource & Grant Opportunities

### **Digest of Federal Grants with Faith-Based and Community Organization Eligibility - 04/19/05**

**Publisher:**  
**The Roundtable on Religion and Social Welfare Policy**  
**By: Lisa Montiel, Roundtable Research Scientist**  
**First published: Apr 19, 2005**

The grant opportunities this week for community and faith-based organizations are through programs administered by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and the United States Department of Justice.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **Administration for Children and Families**

The *Community Food and Nutrition Program* is funded through discretionary grant portions of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Act. The program will support food assistance activities targeted to low-income people. Funded activities include coordinating private and public food assistance resources, identifying sponsors for child nutrition programs, conducting child nutrition programs in unserved or underserved areas, developing innovative approaches to meet the nutrition needs of low-income people, outreach, and providing information to local officials that administer other food programs.

A total of \$2.3 million will support 46 to 50 grants with individual award ceilings of \$50,000. Applications are due June 17, 2005. Complete details are at:  
<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/pdf/05-7461.pdf>.

Community development corporations (CDCs), including those that are faith-based, are invited to apply for *Operational Projects* under the Community Services Block Grant Program's *Community Economic Development Discretionary Grant Program*. The grants are to support a CDC's ability to create new programs that provide employment and business opportunities for low-income individuals. Project activities include business startups, business expansions, and development of new products and services. Projects must result in the creation of new jobs.

A total of \$16 million is available for the program. ACF estimates that it will award 50 to 55 grants with the ceiling on individual award amounts at \$700,000. Applications are due June 17, 2005. The complete program announcement can be found in the Federal Register at:  
<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/pdf/05-7475.pdf>.

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Qualified faith-based and other organizations may apply for a cooperative agreement with the CDC entitled *Capacity Building Assistance to Improve the Delivery and Effectiveness of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Prevention Interventions for High-Risk Racial/Ethnic Minority Subpopulations*. The grant will support capacity building assistance, including training and technical assistance, and science-based, behavioral HIV prevention interventions that target high-risk racial/ethnic minority subpopulations. Minority subpopulations include migrant workers, transgender individuals, and lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth.

The successful applicant will provide the capacity building activities and culturally appropriate prevention interventions to entities that are directly funded by the CDC. Specifically, the successful applicant will conduct needs assessments, identify gaps in capacity building assistance services, collaborate and coordinate with relevant entities, and leverage other federal, state or local resources.

A total of \$2,876,000 will be awarded for six grants. Applications are due May 27, 2005. The program announcement can be found in the Federal Register at:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/pdf/05-7286.pdf>.

The CDC is also accepting applications from organizations interested in establishing *Centers for Excellence to Promote a Healthier Workforce*. These Centers are the core of trans-disciplinary research, education and translation programs. The successful applicant will conduct collaborative work on the integration of health protection and health promotion in the workplace, and evaluate the impact of a comprehensive approach to the health and safety of the nation's workforce.

A total of \$2 million will be awarded to support one to three new Centers of Excellence. Letters of intent are due May 15, 2005 and applications are due June 15, 2005. The request for applications is at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OH-05-006.html>.

## National Institutes of Health

There are numerous research funding opportunities this week through the National Institutes of Health. The first, *Methodology and Measurement in the Behavioral and Social Sciences*, will support research projects that address methodology and measurement issues, topics within research design, data collection techniques, and analytic methods within the Behavioral and Social Sciences. Examples for each of these research areas are included in the program announcement.

The amount of individual awards is dependent on the scope and scale of the proposed research project. The next deadline for applications is June 1, 2005. Complete details are in the program announcement at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-05-090.html>.

Qualified faith-based and other organizations may apply for a grant entitled *Nutrition and Diet in the Causation, Prevention, and Management of Heart Failure*. The grant will support research on how nutrition and diet affects the causation, prevention, and treatment of cardiomyopathies and heart failure. The results of the proposed project should advance preventive approaches in high-risk individuals.

The amount of individual awards is dependent on the scope and scale of the proposed research project. The next deadline for applications is June 1, 2005. Complete details are in the program announcement at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-05-089.html>.

The funding opportunity entitled, *Secondary Analyses in Obesity, Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases*, will support the following types of research: secondary analyses of data related to the epidemiology of disease areas within the interest of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIH); secondary analysis that leads to subsequent research; rapid analyses of new databases and experimental modules; and the archiving of datasets.

The amount of individual awards is dependent on the scope and scale of the proposed research project. The next deadline for applications is June 1, 2005. Complete details are in the program announcement at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-05-091.html>.

The Secondary Analysis of Existing Alcohol Epidemiology Data research grants will support projects that conduct secondary analyses of existing datasets in order to increase an understanding of the patterns of alcohol consumption and the epidemiology of alcohol-related problems. NIH is interested in research on the incidence, prevalence, etiology, and risk factors of alcohol related problems and disorders.

The amount of individual awards is dependent on the scope and scale of the proposed research project. The next deadline for applications is June 1, 2005. Complete details are in the program announcement at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-05-088.html>.

Qualified faith-based and other organizations may apply for a grant entitled *Sjogren's Syndrome: A Model Complex Disease*. Sjogren's syndrome is an autoimmune disease prevalent in women. The grant will support investigations on the mechanisms and processes underlying the syndrome, research that provides more precise molecular understanding of the pathophysiology and develops preventive measures and therapies.

A total of \$3.5 million will support seven to 12 grants. Letters of intent are due August 22, 2005 and applications are due September 21, 2005. The complete request for applications is at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DE-06-004.html>.

Qualified faith-based and other organizations may apply for a grant to research Stem Cells and Cancer. The successful applicant will investigate the genetic and biochemical regulatory mechanisms that control the biological properties of both normal and tumor stem cells. NIH is particularly interested in projects that investigate the characterization of tumor stem cells from the broad spectrum of solid and liquid tumors not already examined, research on markers potentially shared by tumor stem cells and normal stem cells, and on the biochemical and molecular regulation of normal and tumor stem cell function. Research on the cell and molecular biology of embryonic stem cells, adult stem cells, and tumor stem cells may apply for this funding opportunity.

The amount of individual awards is dependent on the scope and scale of the proposed research project. The next deadline for applications is June 1, 2005. Complete details are in the program announcement at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-05-086.html>.

Applications are being accepted for *Understanding and Treating Tuberous Sclerosis Complex*. Projects will investigate the mechanisms that cause Tuberous Sclerosis Complex and translate this research into therapies. Examples of research topics are included in the program announcement.

A total of \$2 million is available for this funding opportunity. The next deadline for applications is June 1, 2005. The program announcement can be found at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-05-085.html>.

## **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

### **Bureau of Justice Assistance and Office for Victims of Crime**

Faith-based and other victim service agencies interested in applying for federal funds may submit concept papers for the grant opportunity, *Human Trafficking Task Force and Victim Services*. The federal funds will support the formation of a collaborative human trafficking task force that investigates, identifies and rescues victims of human trafficking. In addition, current trafficking victim service agencies may apply for supplement funding under this opportunity.

Currently OVC-funded victim service agencies may apply for up to \$295,000 in supplemental funding, and new grantees may apply for up to \$500,000. Concept papers are due May 12, 2005. The solicitation for papers is at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/05HTTFsol.pdf>.

### **Community Capacity Development Office**

Qualified faith-based and other organizations may apply for the grant entitled *Operation Weed and Seed: Competitive Sites*. The solicitation for applications contains a list of geographic sites that have been approved by DOJ for Weed and Seed projects. Operation Weed and Seed is an initiative to partner law enforcement agencies and prosecutors to "weed out" violent crime and drug abuse, while organizations "seed" the area with prevention, intervention and treatment services, and neighborhood revitalization activities.

Successful applicants may apply for a grant under this program to maintain their best programs, plan and implement their own Weed and Seed strategy and serve as an example for other sites. Interested applicants should note that sites should have at least one Safe Haven (a multi-service center where a variety of youth and adult services are coordinated). Successful applicants are also expected to participate in DOJ evaluations as well as arrange for a qualified partner to analyze their site's crime problems and evaluate the site's strategy and programs.

The amount of individual awards is dependent on the scope and scale of the project. Applications are due September 15, 2005. The request for applications is at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo/docs/2005WSCompetitiveSol.pdf>.

### **Office for Victims of Crime**

Qualified faith-based and other organizations may apply for a *State Victim Assistance Academy Initiative* grant to establish a state academy. State Victim Assistance Academies provide comprehensive, academically-based education for victim assistance providers, victim advocates, criminal justice personnel, and allied professionals who routinely deal with crime victims.

Only activities related to the first year of planning will be supported through this funding opportunity. Activities include establishing a diverse planning/steering committee to plan and manage the project; assessing existing state-sponsored educational initiatives and victim assistance training resources; establishing a partnership with the academic community; reviewing and/or designing curriculum; establishing a method for selecting students; and addressing the staffing of the academy.

A total of \$210,000 will support six grants of \$35,000 each. Applications are due May 5, 2005. The request for applications is at: <http://www.ojp.gov/ovc/fund/pdf/FY05SVAAsolicitation.pdf>.

## Accommodations

Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all County programs, services, and activities. Special accommodations/alternative information formats for Faith Communities in Action (FCIA) meetings and Community Interfaith Liaison Office meetings, events, and workshops will be provided upon request. Please call 703-324-3453 or TTY 703-803-7914 to request special accommodations or if you have any questions or concerns. Please allow seven working days in advance of the event to make the necessary arrangements.

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To be removed from the Community Interfaith Liaison E-Newsletter, please send an e-mail to [ciluser@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:ciluser@fairfaxcounty.gov) with the word "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.