Common Ground
A Newsletter for the Interfaith Community
April 2022

COVID-19 Updates
Schedule your vaccine appointment via Vaccines.gov.
For the latest on the vaccine, information can be found on the websites of the Center for Disease Control, the Virginia Department of Health, and the Fairfax County Health Department.
Fairfax County's vaccine progress can be seen here.
An FAQ for the public can be found here and an FAQ for healthcare providers can be found here.
Call FCHD's vaccine hotline at 703-324-7404 (Monday-Friday, 9am-7pm, Saturday and Sunday, 9:30am-5pm).

What You Need to Know About the Omicron BA.2 Sub-Variant

Promoting behavioral health
PRS CrisisLink’s expansion-Centralization of call centers and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and in July 2022, the adoption of the national 988 number, a new 3-digit phone number to connect people with suicide prevention and mental health crisis counselors.

Inova is accepting applications for their Health Equity Grants. If you have questions, please feel free to reach out and connect with our grants team via email at HealthEquityGrants@Inova.org

The Chris Atwood Foundation’s Grief Support Group meets on the second and fourth Saturday of each month to provide support for people in recovery or active use who have lost a loved one to overdose. Contact Chrissy Chow at chrissychow802@gmail.com for more information.

New Blueprint for Youth Suicide Prevention, designed to support pediatric health clinicians in advancing equitable youth suicide prevention strategies

Community Foundation for Northern Virginia
The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia released a new report: Finding Our Way Back to Mental Health: The Need for Accessible, Affordable Treatment in the Midst of Collective Trauma. Here are the recording, slides, and resources.

The Fairfax Area Agency on Aging invites you to their upcoming Health & Wellness Workshop for Family Caregivers of Older Adults and/or Adults with Disabilities.
Yoga and Meditation for Stress Reduction Friday, April 8, from noon to 1:00 p.m. Register here: https://bit.ly/StayingWell-123

Mental Health First Aid
Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is releasing a series of Mental Health Essentials webinars designed to help women, girls and those who support them reduce stigma, build a culture of nonjudgmental listening and support community members who show signs of needing help.

Live Healthy Fairfax
The Spring 2022 Meeting of the Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax is set for Thursday, May 12, 2022, 9:30 am – 11:30 am. To attend the PFHF 2022 Spring Meeting, register here: Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax 2022 Spring Meeting Tickets, Thu, May 12, 2022 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite

Together We Rise Resilience Week: May 1-7
The third annual Resilience Week Virginia! Click the link to find out more: Resilience Week Virginia (grscan.com)
Community Engagement

Historical Marker Project
The Fairfax County School Board and the Board of Supervisors invites all K-12 students (public, private and homeschooled), classrooms and community youth groups in Fairfax County to participate in the initial Historical Marker Project and submit ideas for new Historical Markers throughout Fairfax County. Historical Markers commemorate an event, person, or location of historical significance within the county and the initial focus is on the Black/African American experience. This project is part of a larger Black/African American Experience project designed to capture, communicate, and preserve the Black/African American experience throughout Fairfax County’s history.

New parent groups, in English and Spanish
Parents across NOVA are invited to join other families this spring to celebrate parenting #wins and address challenges in a safe, supportive environment. All groups are facilitated by family and youth experts. Registration closes April 18th. Apply or learn more: Classes & Workshops | SCAN Families

Registration Open: DV Network Tier 2 Training

Costco Wholesale
Costco Wholesale is offering grants of up to $5,000 to nonprofit organizations that focus on children, education, health or human services in the communities Costco does business. You can access the application here.

Boards, Authorities, and Commissions
There are a number of opportunities for residents to serve on one of the many Boards, Authorities, and Commissions (BACs) that reports to the Board of Supervisors. A full list of the Board’s BACs can be found here. Please send a resume and/or brief bio to Chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov or to Lindsey Martin, at Lindsey.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

SAVE THE DATE
!NEW DATES!

A Virtual Meet and Greet with Suzette Reynolds
April 19th 7pm – 8:30pm
April 26th 12-1:30pm
We will be having two virtual meet and greet opportunities with the new Interfaith Coordinator, Suzette Reynolds. More information to come We hope to see you all there!
Supporting Afghan Refugees

If you are supporting or have an interest in supporting Afghan families please email Afghanhelp@fairfaxcounty.gov. You can share about a resource or donation that you would like to offer. You can also share about a need that you have helping a family. Thank you for continued support for members of our community.

Healthy Minds Fairfax

Healthy Minds Fairfax, a county initiative to increase equitable access to quality behavioral health services for children, youth, and their families, is working on putting together a plan for Fairfax County, and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church to make sure that children, youth, and their families can easily get the services and support they need to take care of their mental health. We want to understand more about your experiences with mental health, what might make your mental health worse, where you turn for help for children, youth and their families, and the things that make it easier or harder to get help. We plan to gather information through surveys, community informational sessions, and meeting with groups and organizations.

Please complete and share the surveys today!

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FEMA Non-Profit Security Grant (NSPG) Update
Participate in upcoming NSGP 2022 webinars to learn about the program, priorities, eligibility and the application process. Register here for the next session on 04/01/22 at 3pm via Zoom. Additional information related to the NSGP can be found here. If you have any questions regarding these webinars please contact FEMA-NSGP@fema.dhs.gov

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Security Assessment at First Entry
Security Assessment for Houses of Worship Houses of Worship | CISA. The vulnerability self-assessment tool, as well as other helpful safety and security information for nonprofits, can be found at the Hometown Security website at www.cisa.gov/hometown-security.

U.S. CITIZENSHIP TEST PREPARATION On-line Class
For Permanent Residents Who Are Eligible For United States Citizenship online classes Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7:00 - 8:45pm, April 14 - May 26. Choice of in-person or Zoom orientation on Tuesday, April 12th at 7:00pm at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Rd, Fairfax, VA 22032. Class size limited to 12 students. Sponsored by Lord of Life Lutheran Church with Congregation Olam Tikvah and Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church. Point of contact for questions: Alma Edgerly at ESL1@lordoflifeva.org. Register here.

Coping During COVID: Strategies on Managing Stress for Faith and Community Organizations, Emergency Managers and First Responders
The Department of Homeland Security, Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships hosted a webinar to support faith-based and community-based organizations, emergency managers and first responders who are responding to COVID-19 and/or have personally experienced the traumatic impact of COVID-19. You can see a recording of the webinar here. This webinar addressed the stress and the social and emotional impacts associated with COVID-19 by learning from subject matter experts on mental health who provided perspectives that include communities of color and various faith traditions. The intent was to present strategies and/or resources that were applicable to all.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax
Follow up from Teaching Truth: Putting Students First We plan to continue supporting school board activism and encourage everyone to get involved. School board meetings are coming up on Apr. 14 and 28. They are held at 7 p.m. at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Rd., Falls Church. You can sign up to speak here (this opens up 2-10 days before the school board meeting)

UUC Auction Donations and Volunteers Needed. Here are some ideas for what to donate. Please donate by April 16th for the May 7th auction. If you would like to volunteer at the auction, Sign up here.

Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions
Webinar on Innovative Local-Level Surplus Food Re-distribution: Case of Tafel, Germany
Please join us April 18, 2022, from 12:00pm to 1:00pm for a discussion with Bastian Nadj of Tafel, in Stuttgart, Germany for a discussion about sustainable surplus food redistribution in his region and potential applications of lessons to Northern Virginia. Sign-up here

Tysons Interfaith
Oneness Series: You are invited to immerse yourself for an hour in Prayers and Meditations for Peace from an array of traditions as we collectively raise the consciousness of the world to Peace. Sunday April 3 at 2pm. To register, click here Gather in Peace to Heal Our World Tickets, Sun, Apr 3, 2022 at 4:00 PM | Eventbrite