



June 23, 2013 – Nearly 600 people packed Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Arlington, VA for a VOICE “Public Land for Public Good” Action calling for a new commitment by the County Board to build 1,500 new affordable housing units on county-owned land. VOICE leaders collected over 10,000 signatures to reflect popular support for their effort and went on to get the county board to commit to identifying the first sites for development.

VOICE 2013 Member Organizations

Alexandria

- Church of the Resurrection*
- Episcopal Diocese of VA Region 4*
- Grace Episcopal
- Old Presbyterian Meeting House
- St. Joseph Catholic
- Virginia Theological Seminary

Arlington

- Arlington Presbyterian
- Faith Lutheran*
- Mt Olive Baptist*
- NOVA Catholic Community
- Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic
- St. Charles Roman Catholic
- St. Mary’s Episcopal
- Unitarian Universalist of Arlington

Fairfax County

- Accotink Unitarian Universalist
- Bethlehem Baptist
- Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center
- Fairfax Presbyterian
- Good Shepherd Roman Catholic
- Nativity Roman Catholic
- NOVA Hebrew Congregation
- Rising Hope United Methodist
- St. John Neumann Roman Catholic
- St. Stephen’s United Methodist
- Temple Rodef Shalom
- Trinity Presbyterian
- Unitarian Universalist of Reston
- Voice of Mt. Vernon

Prince William Area

- Bull Run Unitarian Universalist
- Dar Alnoor Islamic Center
- First Baptist Manassas
- First Mt. Zion Baptist
- Georgetown South Comm. Council
- Holy Family Catholic
- Mt. Olive Baptist
- Sacred Heart Roman Catholic
- St. Francis Roman Catholic
- St. Paul United Methodist

**Exploratory Members*

Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement (VOICE)

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An affiliate of the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF)

www.industrialareasfoundation.org | www.metro-iaf.org



**Help Create Change You Can See
 By donating to the friends of VOICE campaign**

2014 Organizing Priorities

- Launch a Credit Restoration Pilot Program to Help Foreclosed-on Families**
- Secure \$10 Million from JP Morgan to Rebuild Blighted PWCO Neighborhoods**
- Organize with NOVA Tenants To Protect Their Homes from Upscale Development**
- Secure 3 Public Sites in Arlington to Build 200-300 Affordable Housing Units**
- Win New Soccer Fields for Immigrant Youth at Audubon Mobile Home Park in S. FFX**
- Press for Just & Accountable Immigration Reform & Act on Local Immigrant Issues**



Virginians Organized for
 Interfaith Community Engagement

Who is VOICE?

VOICE is Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement

VOICE believes that people working together have the power to change their communities and their country for the better. Drawing on the proven power of person-to-person organizing, our work transforms communities and builds the local power necessary to create local, regional, and national change.

VOICE is a broad-based organization of almost 50 faith congregations and community organizations. Christian, Jewish, and Muslim, new immigrants and longtime citizens, Republicans, Democrats, and Independents, we are over 125,000 strong in Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax County and the Prince William area. Through research, relationships, and collective action we are able to win on issues that impact low and middle income families.

Highlights from Our Work in 2013

- **Winning \$30 Million to Revitalize Blighted Properties & Build Affordable Housing in Prince William**
- **Securing \$3 Million to Build New Athletic Fields to Serve Low-Income Youth in South Fairfax**
- **Getting 10,350 Signatures to Support the Development of 1,500 Units of New Affordable Housing on Public Land in Arlington; Secured County Board Agreement to Identify Public Land for this Purpose**
- **Preserving 200+ Affordable Rental Housing Units at Crescent Apartments in Reston & Layton Hall in Fairfax City by Organizing with Tenants**
- **Winning a New Part-Time Staff Person and Lifetime Learning Program Serving Ages 55+ at the McLean Community Center & Forcing River Run Senior Apartments Owner in Woodbridge to Address Housing Code Violations**
- **Organizing Immigrant, Education, Business, Religious, and Community Leaders to Push VA Federal Representatives to Support Comprehensive and Accountable Immigration Reform**
- **Hiring & Training 3 Bi-Lingual Organizers by Raising \$75,000 in Grassroots Donations from Individuals and Businesses**
- **Training 150+ New Leaders In Broad-Based Organizing and Recruiting 4 New Institutional Members**
- **Having 39 Congregations/Institutions Support our Work with Contributions of Over \$200,000**



On April 10th, 7 VOICE institutions brought more than 450 leaders to stand with tens of thousands of others on the National Mall in Washington, DC to push for just, comprehensive, compassionate, and accountable immigration reform. Pictured are leaders from Good Shepherd Catholic Church on the bus.



Aisha Haji, from Dar Al Hijrah Islamic Center, helps host a candidate forum with Arlington County Board Candidates putting the issue of affordable housing front and center in the election.



Rev. Keith Savage, VOICE Clergy Leader, and 60 VOICE leaders rallied outside the JP Morgan's DC Private Wealth Banking Offices and decried JP Morgan Chase's refusal to reinvest \$10 million to address the foreclosure crisis in Prince William County.



Leaders from Rt. 1 Fairfax County stand on a parking lot next to Audubon Mobile Home Park that they are working to turn into an athletic field for youth. From left, Audubon resident Carla Claire; Jennifer Knox of VOICE; Nora Watts of Bethlehem Baptist; Leah Tenorio of Good Shepherd Catholic; Rick Genuario of the West Potomac High booster club; and Tuck Bowerfind of St. Luke's Episcopal. (Tom Jackman/The Washington Post)



230 tenant & VOICE leaders walked a mile to send a powerful message to Fairfax County officials: we are ONE RESTON, united to preserve Crescent Apartments. The action led Supervisor Hudgins & County Board Chair Bulova to commit that "all residents will have the opportunity to remain at Crescent after redevelopment."

VOICE's 2014 Organizing Priorities

- Bring in new members and diverse constituencies to build our power: 7 in Fairfax; 5 in Prince William; 5 in Arlington; and 5 in Alexandria
- Secure \$10 million equity investment from JP Morgan bank for the Prince William Neighborhood Restoration Fund
- Redevelop 20-40 blighted, foreclosed townhomes in Georgetown South & Dale City for affordable housing
- Launch a 3-5 year credit restoration program to help 2,500 Prince William families who lost their homes to foreclosure qualify for new mortgages
- Secure 3 public sites in Arlington County for 200-300 units of new affordable housing; Start development process on first site
- Finalize development deal for Crescent Apartments in Reston, guaranteeing right of all 180 current residents to return
- Win new neighborhood soccer fields for immigrant youth within walking distance of Audubon Mobile Home Park in Southeast Fairfax County
- Begin organizing with public housing & other tenants in Alexandria, Arlington, and Fairfax to protect their buildings from up-scale development
- Sponsor congregational development & new leaders' trainings for members & prospective members
- Continue to push VA federal representatives to support just & accountable Immigration Reform
- Raise funds to explore organizing with immigrant & low-income youth/families to increase college access & attendance
- Explore organizing in new NoVA areas: Loudon County & Greater Fredericksburg