

# ALIVE! Biennial Report Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014



## Building a Better Future ... Addressing Emergency Needs ...

# ALIVE! Congregations

In 1969, representatives from five local religious congregations formed ALIVE! to serve Alexandrians in need. At the end of Fiscal Year 2014, membership included 42 congregations. Today, ALIVE! is the largest private safety net in the City of Alexandria.

**Agudas Achim Congregation**

**Alexandria Church of the Nazarene**

**Alfred Street Baptist Church**

**Beth El Hebrew Congregation**

**Beverly Hills Community United Methodist Church**

**Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community**

**Christ Church**

**Church of God and Saints of Christ Sixteenth Tabernacle**

**Church of St. Clement**

**Church of the Resurrection**

**Commonwealth Baptist Church**

**Community Praise Center**

**Convergence: A Creative Community of Faith**

**Del Ray United Methodist Church**

**Downtown Baptist Church**

**Ebenezer Baptist Church**

**Emmanuel Episcopal Church**

**Fairlington Presbyterian Church**

**Fairlington United Methodist Church**

**First Agape Baptist Community of Faith**

**First Baptist Church of Alexandria**

**First Christian Church of Alexandria**

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

**Grace Episcopal Church**

**Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill**

**Meade Memorial Episcopal Church**

**Old Presbyterian Meeting House**

**Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church**

**St. Andrew's United Methodist Church**

**St. James United Methodist Church**

**St. Joseph Catholic Church**

**St. Mary Catholic Church**

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

**St. Rita Catholic Church**

**Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Alexandria**

**Third Baptist Church**

**Trinity United Methodist Church**

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington**

**Victory Temple Missionary Baptist Church**

**Washington Street United Methodist Church**

**Westminster Presbyterian Church**

**Zion Baptist Church**



**rooted in  
community  
with faith  
and love**





Dear Friends of ALIVE!,

In its 45-year history, ALIVE! has touched the lives of tens of thousands of Alexandrians in need. Our organization has grown and changed, but our mission has remained constant – “With faith and love, to help people faced with emergency situations or long-term needs become capable of assuming self-reliant roles in the community.”

Toward the end of Fiscal Year 2012, ALIVE! finalized its Strategic Plan. The goal of the plan is to build upon our organization’s strengths so that we may address an even greater share of the needs of low-income individuals and families in Alexandria. Since the Strategic Plan was put into effect, ALIVE! has maintained and improved the quality, accountability, and scope of our programs, and we have focused on strengthening our development capacity in order to help more of our neighbors.

Consistent with our Strategic Plan, ALIVE! established an advocacy process for the purpose of leveraging our volunteer and congregational base to attain increased governmental support for Alexandrians most at risk. In addition, ALIVE! created an Affordable Housing Committee to heighten awareness of the effects on our community of rising housing costs and a decreasing supply of housing that is affordable to lower-income families.

At the end of FY 2014, Ken Naser, our Executive Director, announced that he would be retiring. Many thanks to Ken for his significant contributions to ALIVE! and our community, as both Executive Director and a long-time ALIVE! volunteer. We are excited that Diane Charles has become our new Executive Director. Diane has a strong background in the non-profit community, and she is dedicated to helping ALIVE! fulfill its commitment to those in need.

The assistance ALIVE! is able to provide in our community depends entirely on the contributions of our member congregations, volunteers, donors, staff, and community partners. To all who have joined in this effort, thank you for your concern and support.

Sincerely,

*Indira Ellen Brown*

President  
Fiscal Years 2013  
and 2014



# Building a Better Future ...

Without a good education and a stable home, the prospects of becoming a self-reliant member of the community are greatly diminished. ALIVE! provides assistance with these long-term goals by offering early childhood education to children of low-income families and shelter and guidance to women and children in need. Our aim is to help these families build better lives.

## Early Childhood Education

The ALIVE! Child Development Center (CDC) offers children of low-income parents in Alexandria high-quality early childhood education at subsidized rates. The CDC operates full day and year round, allowing parents to work and be assured that their children are in a loving and nurturing environment.

Children who attend the CDC learn social and academic skills as they prepare to move on to kindergarten on an equal footing with their peers. CDC mothers and fathers are provided parent education, counseling, and support services. The entire family benefits from the prospect of self-sufficiency and success.

*Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014: The CDC served 58 and 54 children and their families, respectively.*



Quality Beginnings:  
The ALIVE! CDC  
is one of only three

preschools in Alexandria accredited by the  
National Association for the Education of Young  
Children (NAEYC) and rated with 4 stars by the  
Virginia Star Quality Initiative.



**A PARENT'S WORDS OF HOPE:** *Since my Sara got a scholarship, we are very happy. We saw so many places, but we chose ALIVE!. Sara is very happy. Her teachers are very loving. Sara is excited about school. We especially appreciate the kindergarten readiness and social skills she is learning. ALIVE! CDC is hope for our kids.*



## Shelter and Counseling

ALIVE! House offers a home, intensive support, and encouragement to single mothers and their children in need. All of the residents were homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness when they arrived. A majority of the mothers have experienced domestic abuse. Most face significant educational barriers to employment and lack job and other life skills.

The ALIVE! House Director assists each mother with parenting skills, employment issues, personal finances, and preparation for finding and managing a home of her own. The children receive counseling and other needed services. Community volunteers offer regular reading programs and join the children to celebrate special occasions throughout the year.

***FY 2013 and FY 2014: A total of 13 mothers and 26 children found temporary homes at ALIVE! House.***

**FROM A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** *I am thankful for my experience living at ALIVE! House. It is more than a home. It is a place where my children and I became closer and where I regained my self-confidence and overcame my fears.*





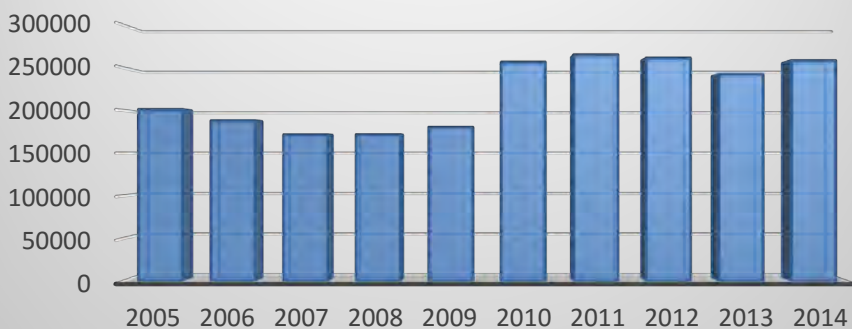
# Addressing Emergency Needs . . .

Vulnerable individuals and families who have trouble making ends meet can find themselves in difficult situations when they encounter unexpected expenses or do not have jobs that allow them to be self-supporting. For over 45 years, ALIVE! has helped meet the basic needs of Alexandrians in emergency situations.

## Emergency Financial Assistance

ALIVE!'s Family Emergency Program (FEP) offers financial assistance in emergency situations -- to help clients pay their rent when they may be evicted, meet utility expenses when services are at risk of being discontinued, or pay medical and other vital bills.

**FEP Spending FY 2005 - FY 2014**



***Fiscal Year 2013: In response to 1,407 requests, the FEP provided \$243,000 in financial assistance.***  
***Fiscal Year 2014: Payments increased to \$259,000; the number of requests satisfied was 1,338.***

Although the financial assistance ALIVE! is able to provide each year varies with available funding, the amount provided in the five-year period ended FY 2014 was 40 percent greater than the amount that was available in the previous five-year period. Despite the increase in FEP payments in recent years, much of the need in the community remains unfulfilled.

### A GOOD INVESTMENT:

A young man, a senior at T.C. Williams High School, was living on his own and renting a room in someone's home. Because he was self-supporting, he was required to work almost full time in a restaurant to make ends meet. It appeared that he would not have enough time to study for his SOLs and final exams and, thus, would not graduate. ALIVE! provided rental assistance for one month so that he could temporarily reduce his work hours and spend time studying. He is now a high school graduate.







## Relief From Hunger

On the last Saturday of each month (except November), at three Last Saturday Food Distribution (LSFD) locations, ALIVE!'s Food Program provides groceries to Alexandrians who might otherwise go hungry. Many of the recipients are families with children or senior citizens. Others have lost their jobs, earn very low wages, or have faced extraordinary expenses.

Much of the food is donated by ALIVE! congregations or collected at food drives conducted throughout the year. In addition, the Capital Area Food Bank supplies food from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, other donated food, and low cost food for purchase.

**LSFD CLIENT APPRECIATION:** *Thanks so much for all you do. Without your help, people like me would not be able to feed our families.*



**Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014:** *The Food Program distributed groceries with an estimated value in excess of \$425,000 per year. On average, more than 2,100 individuals – about 630 families – received food each month at LSFD locations.*

ALIVE!'s Family Emergency Program organizes the delivery of food from ALIVE!'s food pantry to clients for whom attendance at Last Saturday Food Distributions would be a hardship.

**Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014:** *Food was delivered to an average of 137 individuals (61 households) each month.*

**GRATITUDE FOR FOOD DELIVERY:** *I love ALIVE! because it gives me food, friends, and someone who cares.*







## Furniture and Housewares

In FY 2013 and again in FY 2014, ALIVE!'s Furniture Program volunteers delivered donated furniture nearly every weekend. Donors are pleased to share items they no longer need, and recipients are grateful to have places to sit, eat, and sleep. Frequently the beneficiaries have moved from transitional housing to a house or an apartment with no furniture at all.

***Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014: Volunteers devoted over 2500 hours to delivering furniture to approximately 300 families each year.***

**A SOCIAL WORKER'S STORY OF INDEPENDENCE:**  
Thank you for the time and donation of nice furniture that was given to one of our clients who was moving from our transitional housing program into her own apartment. The volunteers who delivered the furniture were warm and friendly, and the furnishings have made the apartment feel like a home for this young mom and her son. She is on her way to independence with your help.



ALIVE!'s Housewares Program gathers and distributes donated housewares – including linens, dishes, and cookware. Housewares are offered to clients at ALIVE!'s Last Saturday Food Distribution (LSFD) locations or delivered directly to clients' homes.

***Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014: An estimated total of 290 families received delivered housewares. Approximately 300 families selected housewares at each monthly LSFD.***





# **ALIVE! EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND STAFF**

## **FISCAL YEARS 2013 AND 2014**

### **OFFICERS**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>ELLEN BROWN</b>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	<b>DEBORAH PATTERSON</b>
<b>RECORDING SECRETARY</b>	<b>ERIC WINAKUR</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>RICHARD GLASSCO</b>
<b>ASSISTANT TREASURER</b>	<b>DEBORAH SCHAFER</b>
<b>ASSISTANT TREASURER</b>	<b>TONY TIGHE</b>

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

<b>AFFORDABLE HOUSING</b>	<b>CHERYL MALLOY</b>	<b>FURNITURE</b>	<b>MIKE DIFFLEY (2013)</b>
	<b>JOHN BOHM</b>		<b>MIKE MACKEY</b>
<b>ALIVE! HOUSE</b>	<b>KEVIN HEANUE</b>	<b>HOUSEWARES</b>	<b>ADDIE HEBERT</b>
<b>AUDIT</b>	<b>ALISON UTERMÖHLEN</b>	<b>INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>LARRY THOMPSON</b>
<b>CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER</b>	<b>MARY EILEEN DIXON</b>	<b>NOMINATING</b>	<b>CHERYL MALLOY</b>
	<b>MARYANNE BEATTY (2013)</b>	<b>PERSONNEL</b>	<b>CATHY THOMPSON</b>
	<b>VACANT (2014)</b>		

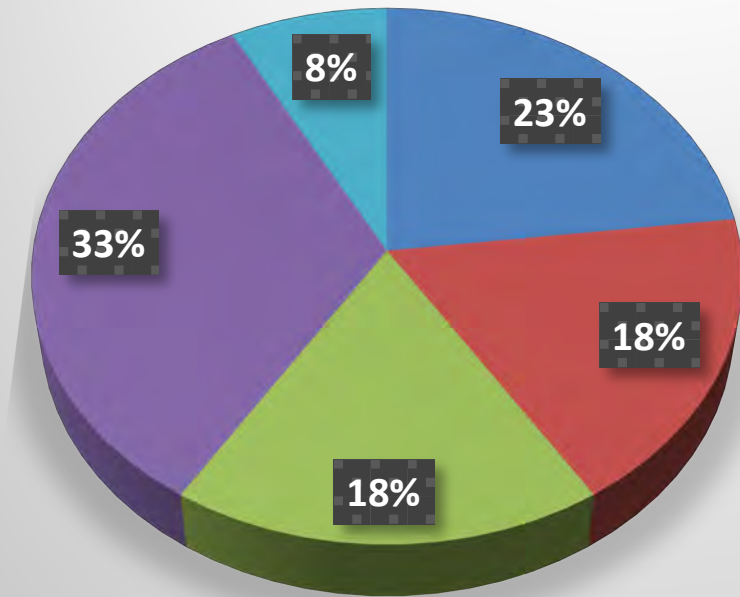
<b>CONGREGATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES</b>	<b>ANN MARIE HAY</b>	<b>STAFF LEADERSHIP</b>	
	<b>MARIAN VAN LANDINGHAM (2013)</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b>	<b>KEN NASER</b>
	<b>VACANT (2014)</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT</b>	<b>KATHY RICHARDS (2013)</b>
<b>FAMILY EMERGENCY PROGRAM</b>	<b>LINDA COLEMAN</b>		<b>JOANNA NEIL (2014)</b>
	<b>VIVIAN WEBB (2014)</b>	<b>ALIVE! HOUSE DIRECTOR</b>	<b>AMANDA ISSAC</b>
	<b>JEAN MOORE</b>	<b>CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER DIRECTOR</b>	<b>PAM BLANKENSHIP</b>
<b>FOOD</b>			

### **FY 2013 AND FY 2014 ALIVE! BIENNIAL REPORT**

<b>EDITOR</b>	<b>ELLEN BROWN</b>
<b>DESKTOP DTP</b>	<b>JULIE LINEBERRY</b>
<b>PHOTOGRAPHER</b>	<b>GEORGE LAUMANN</b>

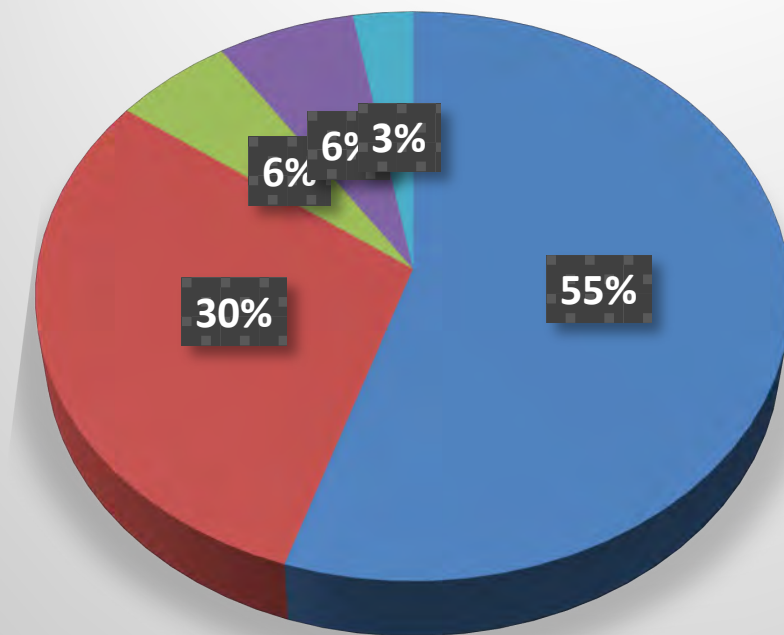


## FY 2013 Revenue \$1,787,365



- Cash Contributions  
\$412,487
- Grants and United Way  
\$320,051
- Government Reimbursements  
\$321,808
- Non-cash Contributions  
\$592,646
- Fees, Events, and Other Income  
\$140,373

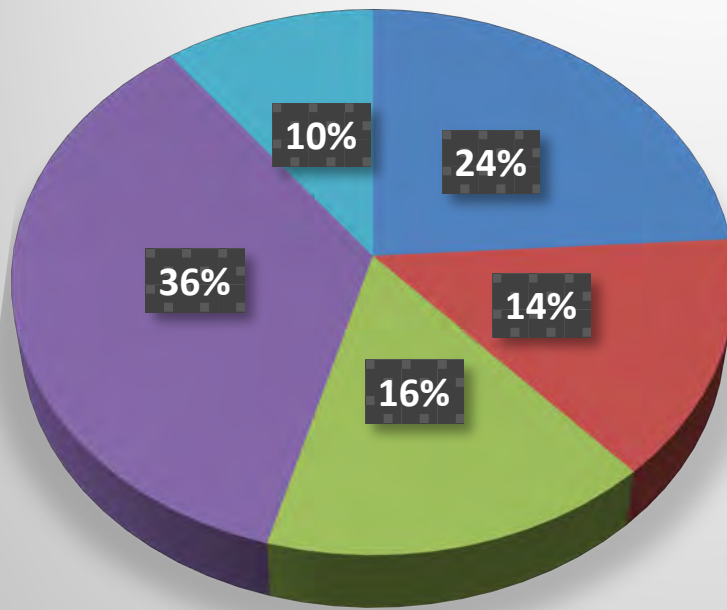
## FY 2013 Expenses \$1,720,403



- Emergency Services  
\$946,657
- Child Development Center  
\$517,847
- ALIVE! House House  
\$96,474
- Management and General  
\$111,105
- Fundraising  
\$48,320

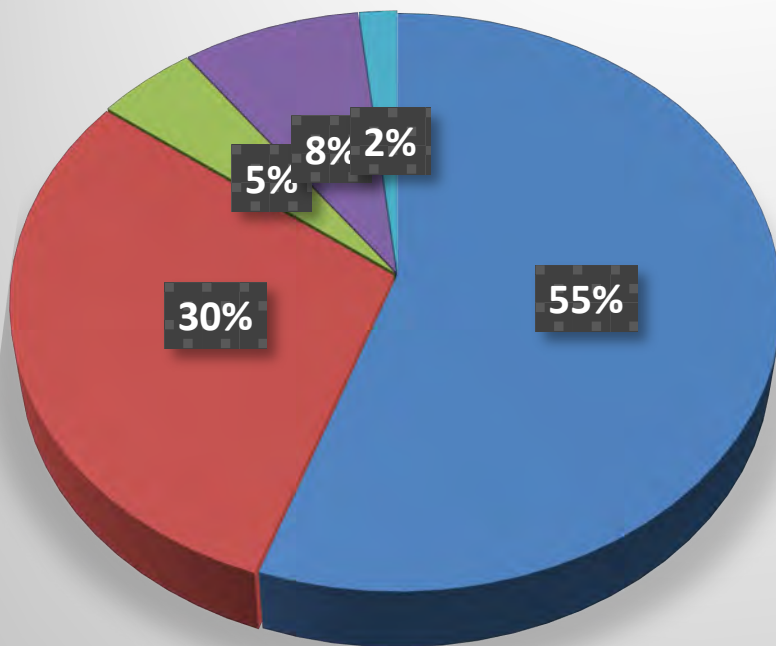


## FY 2014 Revenue \$2,132,869



Cash Contributions	\$512,113
Grants and United Way	\$303,960
Government Reimbursements	\$342,034
Non-cash Contributions	\$754,136
Fees, Events, and Other Income	\$220,626

## FY 2014 Expenses \$2,026,666



Emergency Services	\$1,121,915
Child Development Center	\$608,437
ALIVE! House	\$94,068
Management and General	\$166,700
Fundraising	\$35,546





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