

So much is going on with us! Read on to find out...



COMMUNITY LODGINGS

Opening Doors to Independence

Community Connections

Your monthly update on what we do and how you can help

Let's Cheer for our Washington Nationals!



One of our generous sponsors is donating \$3 for every home run the Washington Nationals make until the end of the year! We will tweet updates after every game. As we hit "send" the Nationals have hit 76 out of the ballpark ... that's \$228 for us! Anyone else have faith in our 'Nats like Donna does?

It's Raining Interns - Hallelujah!



Another reason to love summer - intern time! Valerie Pasquale (left) is a rising senior at University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus, majoring in Health Administration and Policy major. She comes to us through the Washington Center for Internships and will be interning with us from May 31st - August 4.

Amy Holm joins on June 6 and will stay with us until August 5. Amy just completed her freshman year at University of California, Berkley and lives in Alexandria.

Leslie Diaz (right) is our our T.C. Williams High School senior intern who spent three weeks with us and leaves on June 10th.

Valerie, Amy and Leslie are helping out in the development office and they have been an incredible help! We have never been happier!



Julia Peterson is our Fifer intern. She is an American Studies major at the University of Mary Washington and she is helping us get ready for our summer enrichment program.

Development Updates

Our executive director Lynn Thomas (center) and development director Jasmin Witcher (second from right) accepted \$25,000 from the Walmart Foundation on May 26. This grant will support our employment programs for adults and youth. Yahoo!

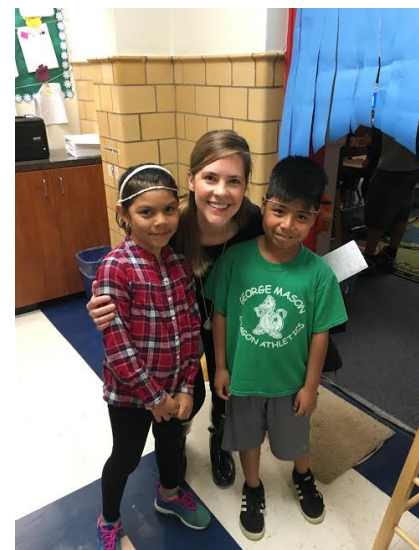


GREATER WASHINGTON

And in the rest of the great-news department, Community Lodgings has once again been selected as one of the 74 of the BEST small nonprofits in greater Washington, by the [Catalogue for Philanthropy](#) for 2016-2017! We are honored to be recognized for our great programs, impact and transparency!

Meet our Staff - Gwen Spitzhoff

Gwen Spitzhoff is one of our program coordinator and oversees our girls' mentoring program. Gwen also became our resident celebrity when she made her television debut in April. Do you remember when David Culver from NBC Washton/Channel 4 interviewed her about our youth education programs? She nailed it! Want to know more about Gwen? [Click here.](#)



Youth Education Update

Last month we started a new partnership with the local nonprofit ALIVE, who is giving us food from their food bank to support 15 of our neediest families for up to five days. Our families in transition are part of this program, as well as other families in our community. We are loving this way to help our neighbors!



And speaking of food, how do you like our garden? This is the fruit (or vegetable, in this case) of our girls' mentoring program labor thanks to a grant from the Hunting Creek Garden Club. All of this delish produce will be distributed to the families in the Chirilagua community.

And finally, our youth education children get their first taste of college as we begin a collaboration with the Northern Virginia Community College Pathways program. Our middle school kids will visit the Annandale campus this summer, and our elementary school students get a presentation this week.

Youth Employment Program Ends, Jobs Begin!



Six of our enterprising students completed our Youth Employment Program and all six will be placed in jobs throughout the City of Alexandria this summer. We are so excited for them! Here they are, smiling proudly with Octavius Fulton (second from left) of Teenswork!, our city's job training program for our citizens ages 14 - 24.

And Finally...

Did you forget to buy a Father's Day present? Never fear, [click here](#) (and it helps us too).

STAY CONNECTED:

