

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

Development Updates



Home run! We now have 3 donors who are pledging dollars and cents to us for home runs and strike outs by our Washington Nationals and the Boston Red Sox! It's hard to keep track with the crazy baseball schedules but so far this season the total pledged is over \$1,000 - talk about batting 1000! Want to join the challenge? Email Jasmin Witcher at jwitcher@community-lodgings.org

Remember Denise, our former client who graduated from our transitional housing program and was featured on [NBC4 in April](#)? Denise and her two sons fled a domestic violence environment and are now thriving! You can meet Denise our at **2016 Open Doors Fundraising Breakfast on Thursday, October 20!** Hear her incredible story firsthand and learn how you can help Alexandria's most vulnerable families lift themselves out of poverty. The breakfast is **FREE** - to attend contact Jasmin, jwitcher@community-lodgings.org, for more information.

Finally, we need **table captains** for our breakfast too - and it's the most fun thing we will ever ask you to do! Just commit to bringing yourself and 9 friends to the breakfast. Jasmin has all of the details on that too (we like to keep her busy)!

Meet our Staff - Elizabeth Garibay

Elizabeth is one of our four AmeriCorps members and she has been part of our Community Lodgings team since August of 2014. We learned to never pick Elizabeth's gift during our white elephant gift exchange at our Christmas party last year and love her creativity. Don't believe us? Just read what she wrote about herself - [click here!](#)



Youth Education Update



Our after school program is over and our summer program has begun. We're thrilled to enroll 68 kids in our program - that's a 25% increase over last summer!

Twenty of our lucky middle school kids spent a week at the [Animal Welfare League of Alexandria](#) learning all about how to take care of animals. Who knows how many came home with a new pet?



It wouldn't be summer without a weekly trip to the pool...



or those amazing Friday field trips...



...and, of course, our summer learning program!

Off to Work!



Our six graduates of our Youth Employment Program (four of them proudly showing their diplomas) are now working all around town - the Alexandria branch of Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Cora Kelly Recreation Center, Charles Barrett Community Recreation Center, George Washington Middle School and our very own Community Lodgings!

Here's what the city's youth employment counselor had to say about our kids:

"They were by far the most impressive and memorable interviews of the season. These students were more than well trained on interviewing techniques....I am totally convinced that you have permanently changed the lives of these individuals in many ways."

Impressed? We are too!

Are you a Past Board Member?

We want to hear from you! Did you know next year will be our 30th anniversary of helping Alexandria's neediest families? Yes, there will be celebration, and we want you to be part of it! Contact Jasmin at jwitcher@community-lodgings.org.

And Finally...



We are honored to be included in the 2016-2017 [Catalogue for Philanthropy](#), meaning we have been selected as one of the best-run, high-impact small nonprofits in metro Washington!

Community Lodgings | (703) 549-4407 | info@community-lodgings.org | <http://communitylodgings.org>

STAY CONNECTED:

