

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

Sign up **NOW** for our **Open Doors to Independence breakfast**



Going, going, GONE! We have only 200 seats for this year's **Open Doors to Independence breakfast** and they are evaporating FAST! Please join us on **Thursday, October 20**, from **8:00 - 9:00 a.m.** at the **Holiday Inn and Suites (625 First Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314)** [by reserving your seat today](#). This hot breakfast is **free**, and in one hour's time you

will hear our clients share how Community Lodgings has changed their lives. There is an "ask" at the conclusion of the event, and we hope you will join us as we all help important Alexandria's neediest families lift themselves out of poverty.

Congrats to our Teenworks! Winners!

Once again our students who enrolled in our Youth Employment Program excelled at their work sites throughout the city this summer!



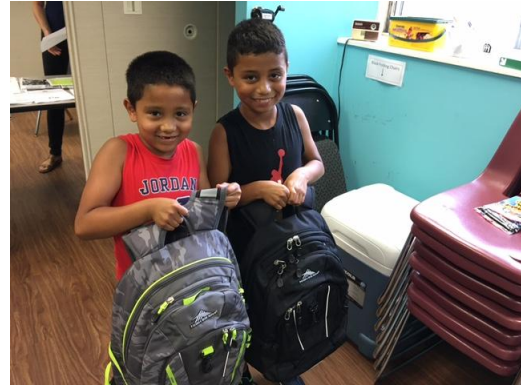
Quamaine "Q" Bookard (left) won the "Overall Outstanding Award" among all of the teens employed by the City of Alexandria. Assigned as the assistant to Jefferson Houston School principal Dr. Christopher Phillips, Q stood out because of his exceptional desire and drive to excel. Dr. Phillips said of Q, "He is truly a gentleman, scholar, role model and leader." Congratulations, Q! We are so proud of you!

Hiban Marroquin (right) was assigned to the Northern Virginia Community College Alexandria Campus where he assisted with lighting renovations, classroom inspections and tested all emergency call boxes on campus. His supervisor wrote, "Hiban has a bright future in whatever he decides to pursue...We wish him the best

and hope that he can return next year." Great job Hiban!

Yes, It's Back to School!

We're full before we started, as 109 kids signed up for our after school programs held at Fifer and New Brookside beginning on September 12. With our thanks to [Alfred Street Baptist Church](#), [Christ Church](#), [Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church](#), [Emmanuel Episcopal](#), [National Community Church](#) and the many other organizations and individuals who donated backpacks and schools supplies, our kids are ready to go!



And, some of our after school boys started their school year with free haircuts, thanks to volunteer barbers from the [Ratcliff Thomas Foundation](#). Love these community partnerships!

And speaking of partnerships, HUGE thanks to [Meade Memorial](#) for hosting us as their guest speaker during their Sunday services, and to [Westminster Presbyterian Church](#) for asking us to speak to their missions group. (Bet you didn't know that we do some amazing presentations about how you can help our families succeed)! Email Jasmin Withcher at jwitcher@community-lodgings.org or call us at (703) 549-4407 to book us as a speaker in your house of worship!

Be All You Can Be - Volunteer!



If you thought we were recruiting for the U.S. Army you are "of a certain age" (as is your beloved newsletter writer).

We still need **ten** [volunteers for the elementary program](#) (Monday-Friday 2:30 p.m.-4:15 p.m.), **ten** for the [middle/high schoolers](#) (Monday-Thursday 4:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.) at our Arlandria sites.

And...we need a [budget mentor](#) or two, an intern to help with development, and some folks to help out at the [Del Ray Art on the Avenue](#) (Saturday, October 1) and the Community Health Fair (Saturday, November 5).

[Click here to apply!](#)

Meet our Staff - Karina Wiggs

Our longest-serving staff member (certainly not our "oldest"), Karina has been with us for 18 years. She must luuuuuv us! Did you know

we have a national sports champion in our midst? [Find out more here!](#)



It's That Time of Year!



CFC #22650

We would love for you to help our low-income families this time of year as the season begins for workplace giving plan. Our numbers are below the logos for the Combined Federal Campaign (left)



United Way
of the National Capital Area

UW #8358

and United Way of the National Capitol Region (right). Thank you!



Have you seen [our Amazon Wish List](#) lately? We need lots of school and craft supplies for our after school and mentoring kids. Please consider supporting us, and [click here](#) when you begin shopping so Amazon can donate 5% of your purchase to us.

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

STAY CONNECTED:

