



For Immediate Release

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# ALL WISHES GRANTED!

- **MORE THAN \$120,000 RAISED**
- **EVERY WISH IN THE FIRST-EVER ARLINGTON NONPROFIT WISH CATALOG HAS BEEN FULFILLED**

## **Arlington Community Foundation’s First-Ever Nonprofit ‘Wish Catalog’ A Success Thanks to Generous Community**

***More than \$120,000 was raised in December to fulfill all the wishes of 24 Arlington-serving organizations***

Arlington, VA—January 13, 2021 — More than \$120,000 was raised in the month of December to fulfill all of the year-end wishes of 24 Arlington-serving nonprofit organizations. On December 1, 2020, Arlington Community Foundation launched its first-ever Nonprofit Wish Catalog featuring grant ideas of up to \$5,000 each from local nonprofits. The public was able to view and ‘shop’ these nonprofit wishes and donate any amount toward a need that was inspiring to them.

A generous anonymous donor matched gifts to the Wish Catalog up to \$50,000 starting in mid-December to encourage the fulfillment all of the wishes. That match was met by the December 31 deadline, ensuring that all 24 organizations received full funding for their wish catalog submissions.

“The Arlington community stepped up to help neighbors in need throughout the holiday season, even though so many had already stretched their budgets all year and given generously throughout the pandemic crisis,” said Jennifer Owens, Arlington Community Foundation president and CEO. “The match was an incentive that prompted many gifts, but ultimately we wouldn’t have fulfilled every wish if it wasn’t for the inspirational and compelling nature of the nonprofit needs that were included in the catalog.”

The nonprofits participating in the project reported that the process was easy and that both the visibility and the extra funding will have a positive impact in the lives of our neighbors.

“The impact of fully funding Bridges to Independence’s wish will empower 134 local youth to break generational cycles of poverty. Additionally, because the community stepped up this holiday season to fund all the projects, families and youth will be fed, housed, educated, and mentored,” said Samuel L.

Kelly, Jr., CEO of Bridges to Independence. "Our safety net organizations are only able to do the work we do with community support, and we are grateful to all who stepped up to do more in this difficult year."

Among the 24 organizations in the Wish Catalog examples of fulfilled wishes include:

- Arlington Free Clinic's case management program that connects patients in need with resources to address the causes of their poor health, including food instability and unsafe living conditions.
- National Capital Treatment and Recovery (formerly Phoenix House) to subsidize the cost of substance abuse treatment for the uninsured or underinsured.
- Bridges to Independence for a youth empowerment program to help break the cycle of poverty in families by focusing on improving academic skills, self-esteem, job readiness and health.
- Aspire! Afterschool learning to support full-day, in-person academic programs for low-income children while schools are closed.

Miss your chance to help a neighbor in need? [Click here](#) to join in making a difference.

### **About Arlington Community Foundation**

The Arlington Community Foundation was established in 1991 to serve as a permanent community endowment built by the gifts and charitable legacies of individuals, families and businesses for the betterment of Arlington County. As a grant maker, convener and sponsor of special initiatives, the Community Foundation strives to strengthen local nonprofits, encourage better understanding of the needs of Arlingtonians, and address the most critical issues of our time to ensure that our community provides opportunity for everyone. Learn more at [www.arlcf.org](http://www.arlcf.org).

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