

Many Needs Served by Many Deeds



2016

Your Support Makes All the Difference...

We are grateful to all our individual volunteers, organizational sponsors and teams, and all our donors for helping restore hope and transform lives in our community. Health and safety repairs and accessibility modifications are protecting low-income homeowners and those with disabilities, revitalizing communities, and helping seniors age in place safely and comfortably. RT-AFF is preserving affordable housing while providing peace of mind and stability to homeowners in need and keeping communities across Arlington, Fairfax and Falls Church stable, diverse and vibrant. Let's continue to work together as we grow to serve more low-income homeowners in the year to come.



Our Best Resources Are Our Volunteers

National Rebuilding Day (NRD) is our signature event, and this April more than 800 volunteers came together to make critical repairs for 29 low-income families and non-profit housing organizations providing \$340,000 in donated labor. It's truly amazing to see so many people united on NRD helping their neighbors remain in their homes by making critical repairs: building new and stable steps with hand-rails, fixing plumbing leaks, modifying bathrooms for wheelchair users, replacing windows to make homes safer and more energy efficient, and so

much more. We are especially grateful to the House Captains who spent countless hours behind the scenes planning and organizing these comprehensive projects and coordinating the efforts of their volunteer teams. *The smiles we see on everyone's faces on National Rebuilding Day show us how much this day means to volunteers and homeowners alike.*



Our 2016 Donors

- \$25,000 +**
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Fairfax County - CCFP
Northern Virginia Health Foundation
- \$10,000 - \$24,999**
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
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Lowe's - City of Fairfax Store
The McLean Rotary Club Foundation, Inc.
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continued.....

Year Round Impact

Year Round Teams from community-minded corporations, faith-based groups and service organizations worked on large and diverse projects for homeowners and non-profits. Our 2016 projects ranged from a team of 10 building a wheelchair ramp for a disabled homeowner to a corporate team doing repairs and maintenance for a veteran to 200 youth spending a day revitalizing the common spaces of an apartment complex for low-income seniors.



We are extremely fortunate to have a growing number of men and women who volunteer throughout the year through our **Handyman Corps**. These invaluable volunteers routinely handle safety and technical repairs, do advance work on projects, and serve as skilled leaders for corporate teams.



Our new program, **Rebuilding Together Express**, is a natural addition to our large teams that make comprehensive repairs. Small teams of skilled RT Express volunteers work regularly throughout the year to complete half-day projects working from a menu of 30 health and safety repairs that are relatively simple and low cost. RT Express has a strong emphasis on fall safety, fire safety and simple energy efficiency upgrades.

The development and pilot testing for RT Express was made possible by the vision and generosity of **The Falls Church Endowment Fund** and **The Northern Virginia Health Foundation** with the recognition that hazards in our homes can hurt our health. This past year our dedicated RT Express teams corrected health and safety

hazards in the homes of 16 senior and disabled homeowners, positively impacting their well-being and allowing them to remain comfortably and safely in their homes.

In June 2016 RT-AFF conducted our first-ever **Hands-On Technical Training** to build volunteers' skills in how to make repairs safely and effectively. Forty volunteers learned how to use the right methods and materials for a dozen critical repairs including how to safely install grab bars and comfort height toilets, seal air gaps to reduce utility bills, and correct clothes dryer fire hazards, among others.

Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church has made a concerted effort to focus on health and safety, help more homeowners, and improve the quality and consistency of our work. The combination of **National Rebuilding Day**, **Year Round Teams**, **Handyman Corps** and the addition of **RT Express** will help RT-AFF be more flexible to meet the needs of many more of our vulnerable neighbors throughout the year. Our homeowners and their families thank you and we thank you!



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And thank you to all of our donors who wish to remain anonymous.

** indicates In-Kind contributor in addition to direct financial support.*

Great Team Experience

In 2016

REBUILDING TOGETHER

Arlington/Fairfax/
Falls Church:



Gathered
1,341
volunteers

who

Donated **12,539** hours



Performed repairs &
modifications

on **61** homes and **6** non-profits



Delivered
\$558,899 in
market value

Important statistics about the households we helped this past year:

88%

Qualify as Very Low or Extremely Low Income according to HUD Area Median Income guidelines



57% persons living with disabilities

84%

Aged 62 or older



20% of households had at least one member under 18

Our Stories

Mending a Home and a Heart

Due to the burden of housing costs, disability and age, Alice was forced to choose between basic necessities like food and medicine, and critical home repairs. The modest wooden cottage where she's lived for 65 years needed extensive repairs so the volunteers from Clarendon Presbyterian Church and The Falls Church Episcopal came to her rescue. Termites had caused major structural damage and part of the floor was collapsing. Skilled volunteers spent many days working in the damp crawl space to shore up the support beams and replace floor joists. Then on NRD a group of 60 volunteers installed new floors and completed repairs and renovations. They installed a vented stove hood to remove moisture and cooking fumes that aggravated Alice's respiratory problems, gave the tiny kitchen a face lift, added grab bars, re-hung doors, fixed door locks, and painted. The team built new landings and steps with railings so Alice could get in and out of her home safely, and painted flowers on the rough exterior walls to make the cottage bright and welcoming. Many team members bonded with Alice, who wept as she walked through her transformed home and expressed her deep gratitude for all the improvements.



Rapid Response for a Double Amputee

Within days of being admitted into the hospital Mr. S was diagnosed with a life-changing illness. Six months later he was still in the hospital, had lost his job and income, and couldn't be discharged because his home was not wheelchair accessible. The family faced mounting bills and couldn't afford the modifications, but fortunately Mr. S found RT-AFF online. Within 10 days of his call a team of skilled handymen had built a ramp and modified a powder room for wheelchair access. These critical modifications allowed Mr. S to return home and the family to begin to heal from the tragic illness.



Helping a Sister Non-Profit Provide Safe and Healthy Housing for Disabled Residents

Housing is the great stabilizer and helping Community Living Alternatives (CLA) continue to provide safe and healthy housing for their residents allows them to focus their resources on providing much-needed residential services for adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities. When last winter's snow storms hit, CLA's budget was stretched thin with the added costs of snow removal and staff overtime. RT-AFF was able to lend support at three CLA homes on



National Rebuilding Day. Volunteer teams from ACCA - John Calvin Presbyterian Church & Ravensworth Baptist Church, United Christian Parrish and Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax completed critical repairs and modifications, including building a walkway, repairing a front porch, installing comfort height toilets, painting interiors and countless other projects at three CLA group homes that are subject to heavy wear and tear.

Restoring Hope

Rebuilding Together Arlington/ Fairfax/ Falls Church

10723 Main St., Suite 135
Fairfax, VA 22030

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Support Our Mission

Helping our neighbors strengthens our community.

Our mission is to bring volunteers and communities together to improve the lives of low-income homeowners. Our vision is a safe and healthy home for everyone. In 28 years, 66,533 members of our community have volunteered to repair 2,071 low income homes and non-profit facilities in Arlington, Fairfax and Falls Church.

Let's achieve even more in 2017!

There are many ways to join us in realizing our vision of a safe and healthy home for every person:

Support Rebuilding Together with a contribution. Fill out the enclosed envelope and send your gift today, or donate online at rebuildingtogether-aff.org

Sponsor your group, your employees or your co-workers and work on a project together - it's the perfect team-building exercise. Call us for more information.

Sign up to volunteer on your own throughout the year. Visit our website for more information, or call us at 703.528.1999

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CONTACT US

Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church
10723 Main Street, Suite 135, Fairfax, VA 22030
703.528.1999

rebuildingtogether-aff.org info@rebuildingtogetheraff.org

 Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church
 ReBldgTogthrAFF

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