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HELP THE HOMELESS AND CHANGE LIVES

The Help the Homeless program provides AMEN with its most important fundraising opportunity of the year. By giving to the Help the Homeless program, AMEN's supporters maximize their donations to AMEN's emergency assistance programs. More Arlington residents need our help, and we hope you will join the AMEN effort.



Here are the ways you can help:

- **Join the AMEN Help the Homeless mini-walk on Sunday, October 26 at 2:00 p.m.** Meet in the parking lot of the First Presbyterian Church, 601 North Vermont St, on the corner of Carlin Springs Road. We will walk through Lubber Run Park and return to the church before 3:30 p.m.



2007 Gunston School Help The Homeless Mini-walk and assembly.

- **Send a donation to support Arlington school students who walk in Help the Homeless mini-walks.** Many students join the walk but cannot pay the registration fee; your donation will make their walk count. Eight Arlington schools will hold mini-walks to benefit AMEN this year. They are: Taylor, Key, Oakridge, Glebe and McKinley Elementary Schools, Gunston and Williamsburg Middle Schools, and the Swanson Middle School Pep Band.

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The August 2008 "BEACON in Focus for People over 50" included a story about three active AMEN volunteers committed to its mission and programs. Their story vividly reminded me that they and more than 40 other AMEN volunteers are the people who really run AMEN's emergency financial assistance programs. They do so quietly, reliably, and expertly. Yet they are unknown to the community and unknown to most of AMEN's financial supporters. They do not seek recognition as they give of themselves to their neighbors in need. To these and all AMEN volunteers, I offer a heartfelt thank you! Your work is worth much praise, and your contributions are immense!

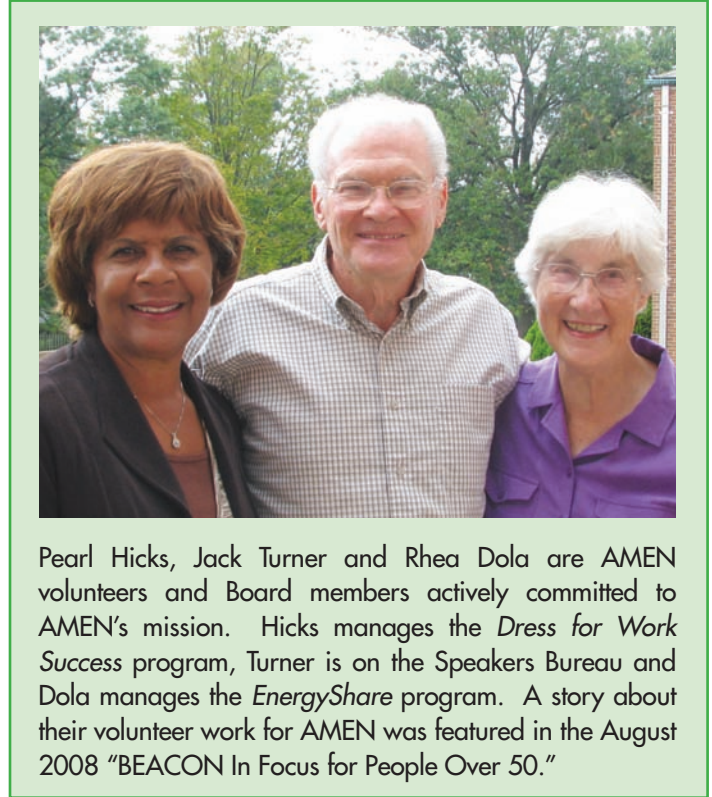


AMEN continues its Help the Homeless mini-walks this fall for students and adults and continues to seek financial partners in this important drive to help end homelessness in Arlington. I have received direct word from a Fannie Mae representative that it continues to fully sponsor and support the Help the Homeless program in spite of recent financial management changes. AMEN is thrilled that our community can once again participate in this important campaign to raise funds that benefit Arlington's neediest residents.

Gerry Shannon

JOIN THE AMEN VOLUNTEER TEAM

Volunteers for AMEN's Daily Emergency Financial Assistance program take phone calls from their homes one or two weekday afternoons per month. Social workers call requesting emergency financial assistance for their clients. All you need is some basic computer skills to record requests on AMEN's laptop computer. We train you in just a few hours. To learn more about this rewarding opportunity to help others, call Sherry Foster (703-528-6420) or Edie Smolinski (703-405-2489).

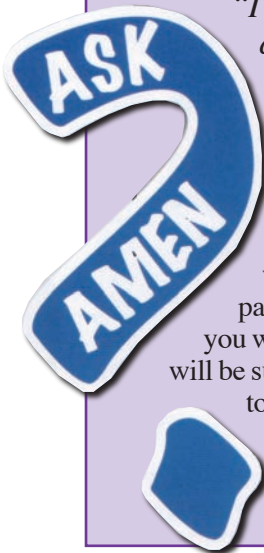


Pearl Hicks, Jack Turner and Rhea Dola are AMEN volunteers and Board members actively committed to AMEN's mission. Hicks manages the *Dress for Work Success* program, Turner is on the Speakers Bureau and Dola manages the *EnergyShare* program. A story about their volunteer work for AMEN was featured in the August 2008 "BEACON In Focus for People Over 50."

ASK AMEN

"I support AMEN's mission and give a generous financial donation every year; do I need to go to the mini-walk too?"

The Help the Homeless program gives AMEN additional funds based on the number of registered persons who walk. By paying the registration fee and participating in the short Oct. 26 mini-walk, you will be counted and your donation to AMEN will be supplemented by Fannie Mae — a great way to stretch your donation dollars, benefit our community, and meet others committed to helping Arlington's needy.



WELCOME! DIANE NEW AMEN BOARD MEMBER ELECTED

Diane Weisz Young was recently elected to AMEN's Board of Directors. Diane is a longtime Arlington resident who returned in July from a three-year residence in Guatemala. Diane is program officer for Sub-Saharan Africa with the U.S. State Department's Office of Global Education Programs. She holds an MA in counseling and a BA in international relations. Diane's previous employment includes a faculty position at Colegio Maya in Guatemala as well as serving as AMEN's executive director from 2002 to 2005.

AMEN'S WORK IN THE COMMUNITY: STUDENT'S RESEARCH SHOWS YOUR DONATIONS MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE!

Pomona College student Sam Hanft, a 2006 Washington-Lee High School graduate, returned to Arlington this summer and, using a social sciences research grant he was awarded, studied the impact of AMEN's work. His mother, Ruth Sievers, a dedicated AMEN volunteer for almost five years, referred Sam to AMEN. AMEN Executive Director Gerry Shannon asked Sam to collect anecdotal evidence of AMEN's effectiveness by interviewing case workers and clients who have received AMEN's assistance.

Through his interviews, Sam discovered that AMEN's volunteer system offers greater efficiency and flexibility than most other organizations providing emergency assistance. Case workers expressed appreciation for the trust AMEN places in their assessments of client needs. AMEN's ability to provide immediate relief to clients with pressing needs also sets it apart from similar organizations, which often take up to a week or more to process requests.

By interviewing clients directly and speaking with social workers, Sam chronicled the alternately heart-wrenching and awe-inspiring stories of Arlington residents whose lives and homes have been saved by AMEN's assistance. "AMEN plays a valuable role in meeting the needs of Arlington's most disadvantaged residents," said Sam.



AMEN Volunteer Ruth Sievers with her son, Sam Hanft.

SUSHI-ZEN



SUSHI ZEN & AMEN ARLINGTONIANS MEETING EMERGENCY NEEDS

Present

AMEN - Zen

**ON Wednesday,
October 29, 2008**

Lunch (11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.) &
Dinner (5:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.)

**Mention AMEN to your waitress and
20%**

**of your meal proceeds will be
donated to AMEN.**

**An additional \$5.00 will be donated to
AMEN when you join**

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American Legion Post #1775
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Arlington Church of the Brethren
Arlington Community Foundation
Arlington Federal Credit Union Employees
Arlington Interfaith Council
Arlington Presbyterian Church
Arlington Temple United Methodist Church
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Washington Forrest Foundation
The Washington Post
Williamsburg Woman's Club of Arlington

We apologize for any errors or omissions and welcome your corrections.

DOMINION VA'S ENERGYSHARE PROGRAM — NOT JUST FOR HEATING ANYMORE

Dominion Virginia Power Company donated \$5 million, expanding the EnergyShare Program to include summer cooling bills. Previously, EnergyShare covered only winter heating bills. Now qualified residents can be helped with their cooling bills as well, from mid-June through October.

With our very hot summers, this is great news for Arlington residents. To date, AMEN has helped 65 additional residents referred by Arlington County's Department of Human Services for a total of \$10,866. AMEN has been entrusted to manage the EnergyShare program for Arlington County since the program's inception.

COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN NUMBER FOR AMEN IS 30709

Federal employees, please designate AMEN as the recipient of your workplace giving in 2009!
AMEN CFC # 30709

Who Does AMEN Help?

"Mildred," a 99-year old Arlington resident, lives on a small fixed income. After paying her rent, she has only \$70 left each month. Mildred developed debilitating dental problems that required oral surgery, but she had no way to pay for it. Arlington's Department of Human Services asked AMEN for help. Because of your generous support, AMEN was able to pay for Mildred's oral surgery, and she is fully recovered today. Your donation to AMEN does make a difference for Arlington residents.

AMEN Thanks Safeway Pharmacies
for R_x Savings.

DID YOU MISS THE \$20 CHALLENGE?

Thanks to all of you who responded to the Spring 2008 \$20 Challenge — you made a huge impact helping AMEN's drive to provide emergency aid in Arlington. If you missed it, you can still make up for lost time by joining the AMEN-a-Month Club. Contribute \$20 or more each month, and your name will appear in lights on the AMEN website!

AMEN FURNITURE BANK OF ARLINGTON CLOSES ITS DOORS

In April 2008, the AMEN Board of Directors made the difficult decision to close its Furniture Bank for financial reasons. The Board's careful review of the expense of the operation, in a time of significantly reduced giving, led to the decision. Several area volunteers are considering the formation of a new, volunteer-based operation outside of AMEN.

If you have furniture to donate, please consult these area organizations:

- Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA): <http://www.accacares.org/furniture.html>
- Arlington Catholic Archdiocese Office of Immigration and Refugee Services: <http://www.arlingtonrefugeeservices.com/index.htm>
- Goodwill Industries: http://www.dcgoodwill.org/donate/where_to_donate.htm
- Doorways for Women and Families, contact Candace Lopez, 703-522-8858x19
- A website which lists charities that accept donations in general is: <http://www.charitablechoices.org/whoaccepts.asp>

Please include your donation check with this form.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I understand that AMEN will withdraw funds directly from my bank account as indicated above. I understand that these donations will continue until I notify AMEN otherwise. I understand that if I need to make changes to my donation or account information, I can do so by telephoning the AMEN office at 703-558-0035 or by mailing a letter to: AMEN, P.O. Box 7429, Arlington, VA 22207.

Monthly donation amount: _____ starting on the date of your check.

Name(s) of account holder (PRINT): _____

Bank Name: _____

I hereby authorize Arlingtonians Meeting Emergency Needs, Inc. (AMEN) to debit my checking or savings account at the financial institution listed below on a monthly basis in the amount specified below:

Remember, your donations of any size make a difference!!!

AMEN ensures your information is safe, and you can terminate the AMEN-a-Month-Club at any time with a simple phone call to us.

Join the AMEN-a-Month Club and know that you are making a huge difference in the lives of fellow Arlingtonians. Here is an easy way for you to make a BIG difference to AMEN. Send in your \$20 check and complete the form below. Your tax-deductible donations to AMEN will be debited automatically from your bank account each month.

Join The AMEN-a-Month Club



Arlingtonians Meeting Emergency Needs, Inc.
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