

The Pathfinder

Help Us Complete the Circle

It is hard to believe that nearly 60,000 people in Fairfax County, including 28,000 children, do not know whether they will eat today. Your support for Complete the Circle FOODRaiser can make a real difference!

Britepaths' Complete the Circle event with Lorton Community Action Center is a joyful and creative service project for community members of all ages to raise awareness about hunger and raise food and funds to help address that need.

We will create a "living picture" of the design at right, photographed by artist Daniel Dancer of Art for the Sky. The image will be surrounded by food and pantry donations that participants bring that day to help local families in need.

Great for individuals, families, companies, service organizations, faith communities and groups of all kinds. All participants are volunteers!




Complete the Circle FOODRaiser

Sunday, October 29, 1:00.-2:30 p.m.

Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax, VA 22030

Registration and Information: www.CompleteTheCircleFx.org

Contact: Jennifer Rose: 703.273.8829 or jrose@britepaths.org



2016 Annual Report

Britepaths' 2016 Annual Report is now available on our web site, britepaths.org. Call 703.273.8829, or email info@britepaths.org to request a printed copy.

New FEC at South County

Britepaths Partners with United Way, Fairfax County

In July 2017, Britepaths began working with the United Way of the National Capital Area and Fairfax County's Neighborhood and Community Services to establish a new Financial Empowerment Center (FEC) at South County.

As the lead non-profit partner, Britepaths has staffed the center and begun providing services to clients in its space in the South County Government Center.

Financial Empowerment Centers through the United Way are family-friendly places where hard-working, low-income people can access a range of financially empowering services to move themselves out of poverty and achieve long-term financial stability.

The new FEC at South County is currently offering Financial Coaching, budgeting classes, and financial workshops, and plans to add services in the coming months.

Please share the FEC information with anyone you know who may benefit. More information is available at FECSoco.org.

Appointments may be made through the website or by calling the Center. The FEC is open on weekdays and also plans to open for two weekday evenings and two Saturdays per month.

On August 4, Congressman Don Beyer visited the FEC. He is pictured in the top inset at right with United Way NCA's Timothy Johnson (left), FEC Manager Dawn Sykes, and Britepaths' Executive Director Lisa Whetzel.

Volunteer Financial Coaches Needed

Britepaths and the FEC at South County are seeking Financial Coaches. This is a great flexible volunteer opportunity for adults with financial backgrounds who are able to volunteer in Alexandria. Great for AFCPE seeking practicum hours. Trainings are being held regularly.

Visit FECSoco.org and click "Get Involved" to learn more. Contact info@FECSoco.org or 703.704.6101.

Mission

Britepaths provides our Fairfax County area neighbors in need with short-term safety-net services and empowers them to work toward long-term self-sufficiency.

Services

- Stabilizing Families
- Building Resilience
- Seasonal Supports

Board of Directors

Dave Sands, President, PwC

Kären Rasmussen, Vice President, No Child Goes Hungry

Matt Bosseler, Treasurer, OEQ, Inc.

Courtney Nicholson, Secretary, Vericred, Inc.

Directors:

Stacey Forbes, Past President, Reed Smith

Laura Soranno, Past President, Pew Charitable Trusts

Catherine Read, Creative Read, Inc.

Mary Lareau, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax

Joni Henderson, Global Alzheimer's Platform Foundation

Alan Krishnan, BSDC, Inc.

Verda "Vee" Johnson, Fairfax County Dept. of Cable and Consumer Services

Amanda Vaccaro, Jackson Lewis, P.C.

Staff

Lisa Whetzel, Executive Director

Christina Garris, Programs Director

Marcelle Miles, Financial Literacy Director

Maria Jose Cantoni, FEC Director

Carole Rogers, Financial Literacy Manager

Diana De La Rosa, Financial Programs Manager

Joanne Walton, Seasonal Programs Manager

Sally Meyer, Project BRIDGE Manager

Jill Beres, Naomi Project Manager

Dawn Sykes, FEC Manager

Jennifer Rose, Development Manager

Heather Webb, Communications Manager

Lynn Latimer, Grants Manager

Cheryl Mitchell, Finance Manager

Mila Cobos, Operations Administrator

Gwen Harter, Data Process Analyst

Kelly Haynes, FEC Assistant Manager

Debra Jones, Development Assistant

Holiday Cheer for Your Neighbors in Need

Sponsor a Family for the Holidays!

What better gift can you give than hope and help to our struggling neighbors? Britepaths' Holiday Program makes it easy for families, individuals, businesses, faith communities and civic organizations to help struggling Fairfax County area residents at this special time of year.

Our goal is to assist 500 families with Thanksgiving meals, December holiday meals and gifts for children. Can You Help?

Sponsor a Family or Individual: Provide meals and/or gifts. We'll connect you with a local family in need.

Donate Funds: Donate on-line or send a check to help us provide gift cards to families who are not matched with sponsors.

Ways to Give: Britepaths also welcomes corporate sponsors and

volunteers to make this program a success!

Learn More and Register at: <http://bit.ly/BritepathsHoliday>. Contact Joanne Walton at: jwalton@britepaths.org or 703.273.8829.

Save the Date! Wine and Wonderment Wine Tasting at 2941 Restaurant in Falls Church, November 15 at 6:30 p.m. Details soon at: britepaths.org.



Ms. G is Moving Forward

Because of your support, our Financial Mentoring client Ms. G is feeling like her life is coming together. She recently shared her story with us.

"Britepaths was and is very instrumental in helping me get my life back together. A few months ago, I was newly separated and scrambling to get legal and financial help in order to support my daughter. I had a mountain of debt, no tools on how to manage my money or increase my income and lacked a structured life.

"Britepaths gave me legal advice, which saved me so much money in legal fees. The organization also gave me financial education assistance in terms of classes, credit management, and

most important of all, a financial mentor. The financial mentor helped me to make a budget and debt repayment plan, to track my spending and to make better financial decisions. In addition to that, Britepaths also put me on their food assistance program where I was able to save a lot of money that I was normally spending on groceries.

"All in all, I don't know where I would be right now without Britepaths. I am a beneficiary of most of their great, organized and efficient services, which made a world of difference to me and my daughter."

Read more client stories at: <http://bit.ly/BritepathsStories>.



Artful Living: Resilience

Thank you to everyone who joined us at Artful Living: Resilience on April 22 at the Sherwood Center in Fairfax City to celebrate art and our community in association with the Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts Festival!

Britepaths raised nearly \$40,000 to further our work to assist struggling families in the Fairfax County area. A portion of the proceeds went to the Spotlight on the Arts Scholarship Fund. We are grateful to our artists, judges, sponsors, volunteers and supporters for making this a spectacular evening.

Our Call for Art for our Spring 2018 event will be available later this Fall at britepaths.org.

Double Your Donation!

Does your company match employees' charitable gifts? If so, you could double, or even triple a gift to Britepaths! Not sure if your company has a program? Contact your HR department to see if your company matches gifts and to learn how to make it happen. Don't forget about the CFC Campaign or the United Way Campaign! If your company participates in either of these campaigns, consider designating Britepaths (CFC #82471 UW#9661). Britepaths is also pleased to provide you a way to search on our website to see if your company offers matched giving. Visit <http://britepaths.org/workplacegiving> to learn more about Workplace Giving and Company-Matched Giving.

Back to School 2017

Thank you to everyone who supported our 2017 Collect for Kids Back to School Program! Britepaths assisted 2,500 students in need at the 18 Fairfax County Public Schools with which we partner. Many thanks to our major grantors, Grainger Foundation and Maximus Foundation, and to our sponsors, backpack collection partners and everyone who donated and volunteered to help us assist so many students!

Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
FAIRFAX, VA
PERMIT 641



UWNC#A: #9661; CFC#82471
Catalogue for Philanthropy

britepaths.org
info@britepaths.com
703.273.8829
Fairfax, VA 22030-4080
4080 Chain Bridge Road

