<u>COG Human Services and Public Safety Policy Committee</u> <u>April 24, 2009</u>

FAIRFAX COUNTY FAITH COMMUNITIES IN ACTION

Fairfax County Faith Communities in Action (FCIA) is a network of faith communities, community-based organizations, and government agencies that fosters interfaith communications and cooperation to build and strengthen human service resources throughout Fairfax County. The goal of FCIA is to (1) facilitate faith community networking, coordination, and solution planning around common community issues and concerns; (2) strengthen information and communications about human service needs and human service delivery systems; (3) strengthen faith community engagement in local initiatives to address identified human service gaps; (4) strengthen faith community representation on local public and private boards, authorities, commissions, advisory groups and special committees addressing community and human service issues; (5) strengthen faith community, local government and local non-profit cooperation, coordination and collaboration around the development of solutions for community and human service concerns and issues; and (6) strengthen community understanding and respect for the area's diverse religions. FCIA has several standing committees:

- Affordable Housing Task Force
- Emergency Planning Steering Committee
- Tolerance and Respect Task Force
- Youth Task Force
- Aging Adults Task Force
- Domestic Violence Task Force

The Standing Committees' membership is to include a representative of each major local religion and major denominations within a religion. The standing committees: (1) study community issues, service gaps, service delivery systems and develop and conduct community education initiatives around these issues; (2) support and provide communication structures for faith community representatives on local authorities, commissions, boards, advisory groups and special committees which have a similar focus as the standing committees; (3) Document faith community best practice human service ministries to share with others pursuing a similar project or service; (4) Facilitate faith community engagement in efforts to develop solutions to community and human service issues and concerns; (5) Facilitate faith community participation in or coordination with community initiatives, projects, services and events addressing community concerns and issues or promoting interfaith understanding and respect for the areas diverse religious population; and (6) Facilitate faith community communications, coordination, and solution development around community and human service concerns and needs with local government and the local non profit community.

FCIA is supported by the Fairfax County Community Interfaith Office (<u>www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dsm/cil</u>). Please contact our office at <u>CILUSER@FairfaxCounty.gov</u> or (703) 324-3453.

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Annandale Christian Community for Action

The Annandale Christian Community for Action, incorporated as ACCA, Inc., is an alliance of <u>26 churches</u> in the Annandale community and adjacent areas. The purpose is to unite all Christians of the community to promote and sponsor Christian social action. The guiding principle is **''doing what Jesus would do.''** ACCA operates assistance programs and helps to support allied programs that serve community needs by meeting the emergency and critical needs of clients. All ACCA services, except the Child Development Center, are provided by volunteers at no cost to those who need them. Over 700 volunteers provide the caring labor, expertise, and administrative support for ACCA programs to low-income families in the Annandale/Bailey's Crossroads area, regardless of religion, race or ethnic background.

Services provided are:

- Child Development Center
- Family Emergency Services
- Furniture
- Housing Repair
- Meals on Wheels
- Scholarships
- Shelter Assistance
- Transportation

Church Members:

Annandale United Methodist Calvary Church of the Nazarene Christ Methodist Church of Washington Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) Cornerstone Evangelical Free Culmore United Methodist First Christian First Presbyterian Friendship United Methodist Gracia United Methodist Hope Lutheran Immanuel United Methodist John Calvin Presbyterian Lincolnia Methodist Mt. Pleasant Baptist Peace Lutheran Providence Presbyterian Queen of the Apostles Catholic Ravenworth Baptist Sleepy Hollow United Methodist St. Alban's Episopal St. Anthony's Catholic St. Barnabas Episcopal St. Michael's Catholic St. Paul's Episcopal United Baptist Warner Baptist