

# NORTHERN VIRGINIA FAMILY SERVICE

INVESTING IN FAMILIES  
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES



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## **NVFS Among First to Receive Grant from Bezos Day 1 Families Fund to End Family Homelessness in Northern Virginia**

On Nov. 20, the Day 1 Families Fund announced it will invest \$2.5 million in Northern Virginia Family Service's (NVFS) efforts to end family homelessness in the region. The grant will help fund NVFS' unwavering people-centric approach to continue to pursue solutions to family homelessness. Funding from the grant will go toward housing after shelter and providing families with services, skills training and job support needed in transitioning to and remaining in permanent housing.

"Receiving an investment from the Day 1 Families Fund is truly an honor," said Stephanie Berkowitz, NVFS president and CEO. "For nearly a century, NVFS has been an innovator in solving the most critical community issues. This investment will accelerate NVFS' efforts in implementing and developing solutions, models and practices to address family homelessness in Northern

Virginia. We are thrilled to partner with the Day 1 Families Fund, and appreciate Jeff and MacKenzie Bezos' vision and commitment to ending family homelessness."

[Read More](#)

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### 3 Inspiring Ways to Give Back This Holiday Season

The holiday season is full of activity, from dinners to children's events to shopping. Calendars are often jam-packed as we celebrate this special time of year with family and friends, and express our gratitude for one another.



Here are three simple-yet-creative ways to share appreciation for one another while giving to our community.

From all of us at NVFS, we hope the holiday season is a merry one for you and yours.

[Read More](#)

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### History in the Making: How One Supporter Found NVFS

NVFS is known for its long history of serving the community, so it's no surprise that history is how **Xenia Garofalo** discovered NVFS.



"I was reacquainting myself with [Alexander Hamilton's] history and background – how he came from less-than-ideal circumstances but, with community support, propelled to great heights and was a founding father of this great nation," she shares. "Not only did his story resonate, but it made me consider how much untapped potential we have in our own community and how the key to unlocking that potential is making sure the right resources are provided for those who need them. NVFS was the first hit on Google when I typed in the search terms that I thought would lead me to the type of organization that cared about investing in the people of the community."

Although she's relatively new to the organization, Xenia has already jumped in to support, including her recent participation in our [Village of Impact](#) service activities. We asked her a few questions about how she has been inspired by NVFS' work and why others should get involved.

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**Village of Impact**

## Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service

**Families living on the edge of poverty are oftentimes working, but not thriving.**  
On Monday, Jan. 21, learn more about how our workforce development programs can transform the lives and opportunities of our neighbors, and participate in a volunteer activity.



**RSVP**

### Spreading Holiday Cheer Through Village of Impact

Did you know... 40 percent of children in Prince William County, 28 percent in Fairfax County and more than 55 percent each in the cities of Alexandria, Manassas and Manassas Park qualify for free and reduced-fee school lunch?

Local families gathered together recently for our December [Village of Impact](#) service day to learn about families living in poverty and the additional hardships it brings during the holiday season. Parents and children alike also created goody-stuffed stockings for young children and welcoming winter decorations for our [Hunger Resource Center](#) waiting area.



Learn more and find out how you can sign up for our next event.

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**The Holiday Season is Almost Here!**



Help support your community as you shop this holiday season through AmazonSmile with 'Northern Virginia Family Service' as your chosen organization.

**Choose NVFS**

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## Cheers to Our Volunteers: November 2018

Thank you to all of our Operation Turkey volunteers, who helped make our drive an amazing success. Thanks to the help of local volunteers and organizations, we were able to supply 1,000+ families with a wonderful, nutritious meal for the holidays.

November volunteers also helped prepare us for the holidays by getting our [Head Start](#) students in the spirit with fun stories and crafts, sorting food and organizing the shelves of the [Hunger Resource Center](#) in preparation for our Operation Turkey drive, and organizing our thrift store to help us spotlight our seasonal merchandise.



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## Events & Opportunities at NVFS

**Gifting for Families**  
*Benefiting Northern Virginia Families*

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**Village of Impact:**  
**Martin Luther King, Jr.**  
**Day of Service**

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**2019 Road to Independence Gala**  
Friday, May 10

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## Top Donation Needs

**General:** Laundry detergent; dishwasher detergent; dish soap; cleaning supplies; common household items

**SERVE Campus** (general): Air mattresses; winter wear (coats, hats, gloves, scarves); Pull-ups diapers; cleaning supplies for welcome-home baskets

- **SERVE Family Shelter:** New pillows; diapers size 3, 4 and 5; Pull-ups diapers; wipes; men's shaving cream; razors; tissues; laundry detergent;



toilet paper; paper towels; cleaning products; full-size lotion; men's and women's deodorant; bus tokens/transportation passes; clothes (women's and teen girl's underwear, socks, sleepwear; men's and boy's underwear, socks, tees/undershirts)

**Training Futures:** Check out our Amazon wish list [here](#).

A complete wish list of items can be found [here](#).

[See More Donation Needs](#)

### Top Volunteer Needs

**Food Recovery Driver**  
Hunger Resource Center

[Manassas](#)

**Shelter Meals Provider**  
SERVE Family Shelter  
*New Year's Day Brunch & Dinner Still Open!*

[Manassas](#)

**Shelter Passenger Driver**  
SERVE Family Shelter

[Manassas](#)

**Food Assistance Specialist**  
Hunger Resource Center

[Manassas](#)

**Children's Activities Specialist**  
SERVE Family Shelter

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**Bilingual Client Intake for Food Assistance**  
Hunger Resource Center

[Manassas](#)



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