



**Lorton Community
Action Center
FY2024 Annual Report**



From the time I came to LCAC a year ago and where I am now, it's incredible. **LCAC helped me get back on my feet.**"

Dennis, LCAC Client

The mission of the Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC) is to enhance the quality of life for clients by providing food, basic needs, and self-sufficiency programs made possible through the generous support of the community.

HELPING PEOPLE THRIVE

LCAC is dedicated to helping families and individuals avoid homelessness and boost stability and self-empowerment. While providing programs that will ensure their basic needs are met, LCAC helps people strengthen health and build skills to pursue their goals and dreams.



When I lost a relative who we relied on for rent, LCAC helped me get through and avoid losing our apartment while I found a job.

Veronica,
LCAC Client



After LCAC's one-time emergency rental assistance kept them in their home, Veronica and her husband continually improved their lives, with access to our food pantry, English classes, and summer recreation for her young child.

In FY2024, LCAC expanded the scope of our services:

Emergency Food Program

We enable residents to receive nutritious, culturally familiar food every week. Clients choose approximately 40 pounds of food each week for their families including fresh fruit and vegetables, meats, grains, non-perishables, kids' snack packs, and also may receive hygiene kits, diapers, feminine hygiene products, and more.

All Can Be Healthy

This year, LCAC continued working to reduce barriers to better health. In response to requests from clients and thanks to support from the Potomac Health Foundation and from Sentara Cares, LCAC's All Can Be Healthy initiative provided:

- A health fair connecting residents and health providers offering access to many free and low-cost medical services along with a regular schedule at our pantry for providers to offer information and referrals
- More individualized nutrition guided by a Green-Yellow-Red nutritional food value program with matching color-coded signage created and placed throughout the pantry



Bridging

LCAC addresses the root causes of poverty by offering classes/ workshops, experiences, and resources, such as:

- Workforce development, job skills, English, and Nutrition and Cooking classes
- For the kids, school supplies, summer camp, art workshops, and other classes
- For families and seniors, winter coats, and gifts with food cards at holidays



Sustainability

LCAC provides emergency financial rent and utility assistance and this year we also launched a Vehicle Repair Assistance Program (VRAP) for qualifying clients, to help:

- Avoid homelessness or disconnection of utilities
- Pay for certain necessary car repairs

Our 2024 program partners include:

- Dominion Power
- English Empowerment Center
- Fairfax Water
- Financial Empowerment Center
- Gunston Shell Service Center
- Inova
- Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation
- MomNetwork
- Neighborhood Health
- Northern Virginia Family Services
- Pillars 4 Humanity
- Potomac Health Foundation
- Sentara Cares
- Washington Gas

Food pantry partners include:

- Amazon Fresh
- Arcadia Farms
- BRAWS
- Capitol Area Food Bank
- Costco
- Food Lion
- Fort Belvoir Commissary
- Giant (Saratoga and Ox Rd)
- Greater DC Diaper Bank
- Gunston Hall
- Junior League of Northern Virginia
- Justice for Paws
- Lidl
- Linda Vista Farms
- Little Green Farm
- Mount Vernon
- Nall's Produce
- Ochoa Produce
- Panera
- Target
- Vitamin Angels
- Wegmans

Fairfax County:

- Community Services Board
- Dept. of Neighborhood & Community Services (NCS)
- Health Department
- Lorton Library
- Pet Resource Center



*Thank You,
to our community partners!*

HIGHLIGHTS OF LCAC'S IMPACT

In FY2024 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024):

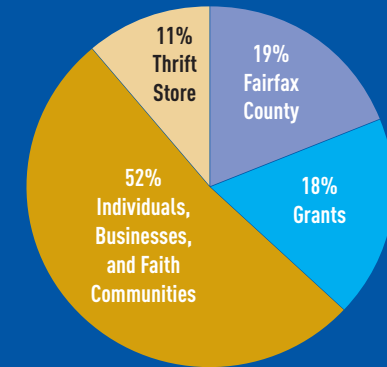
- **LCAC served clients 9,892 times at our food pantry**, a 31% increase from the previous year.
- **Distributed food weekly to 1,990 individuals within 592 families**, a 56% increase in households from the previous year. 90% of those households were considered extremely low income, earning less than \$46,000 annually for a family of four.
- **Received 583,733 pounds of donated food (1,600 pounds per day)**. That is 60% more than the previous year. It includes donations from grocery stores, individuals, faith communities, food drives, and more.
- **Held English classes**, multiple 3-month sessions 2 days/week engaging 68 participants.
- **Provided computer basics and resume writing, Women's Empowerment cohorts, Beginners and Advanced Level cooking and nutrition classes** including preparation for commercial cooking certification, to 240 clients.
- Helped with more than **\$8,000 in impactful car repairs** in the first quarter of our new Vehicle Repair Assistance Program.
- Helped more than **200 households with over \$191,000 of emergency rent and utility assistance**.
- Provided 684 **backpacks and school supplies** last August, 169 **spring gift** baskets, 605 **holiday** gifts, 178 customized **birthday** cakes, and 173 in arts **workshops** or summer **camp**.



*Our thrift store **Lorton's Attic**, relaunched in spring 2024, provided \$14,000 of free clothes and items for clients.*

FY2024 Income Sources

Total Income \$1,419,843



As we approach LCAC's 50th year of building a stronger community, LCAC has developed a Strategic Plan to expand resources for our clients.

In FY2025 LCAC will:

- Continue building relationships with our **health-focused partners**.
- **Address mental health** by providing group workshops and hosting counselors onsite or remotely.
- **Create case management plans** to help build stability and stronger self-sufficiency.
- **Assess and increase access to needs of homebound clients**.
- **Increase workforce development opportunities** to help clients become more employable and find jobs.
- **Enrich programming** for the growing number of senior clients at LCAC.

Contact LCAC:

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Located in the Lorton Community Center