

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Arlington County Civic Federation

Arlington, Virginia

95th Year

The Civic Voice of Arlington

The Arlington Street People's Assistance Network (A-SPAN)

April 8, 2011

The mission of the Arlington Street People's Assistance Network is to secure permanent housing for Arlington's street homeless through outreach and relationships built on trust and respect. Street Outreach Staff frequent wooded areas, parks, underpasses, abandoned buildings, and other areas to meet with homeless people where they live.

Opportunity Place is the hub of operations at A-SPAN where homeless people have access to a wide range of wraparound services. Programs assist clients in addressing their personal barriers to self-sufficiency with the support of staff and volunteers.

The Emergency Winter Shelter in Arlington is open from November 1st through March 31st every year. This past year, the capacity of the shelter was expanded from 44 to 73 beds, and on many nights, an additional 18 people slept on mats in an overflow section. Case management, mental health, and substance abuse services and meals are available to shelter guests.

A-SPAN has two HUD funded permanent supportive housing programs known as In-Roads and Striving Home. The Permanent Supportive Housing Program provides housing and case management for 18 people who suffer from mental illness or substance abuse and were chronically homeless prior to being placed in housing.

The Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program began in October 2009 through funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. During the first six months of the program, HPRP has placed 22 people in housing and prevented 14 others from being evicted.

A-SPAN began in 1988 when two women started preparing bagged meals. Today, 1,000 volunteers from faith groups, schools, businesses and the community prepare and serve up to 80 meals daily at two Arlington sites. The Arlington County Civic Federation presents this Certificate of Appreciation for ASPAN's commitment to providing life-sustaining services for one of Arlington's most vulnerable populations.