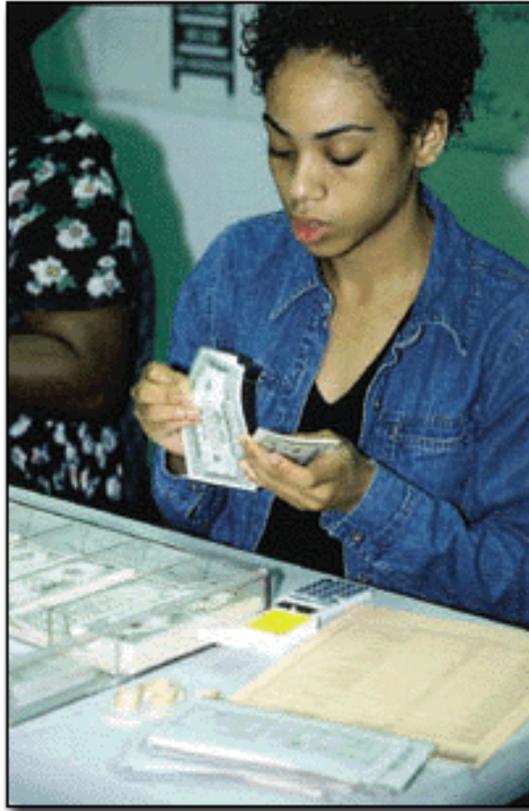


Accomplishments and Events Housing, Human Services and Health



JobLink is a “one stop” career center available to all Alexandria residents, with the goal of linking area employers with potential employees who are prepared and motivated to work. During FY 1999, JobLink served 1,061 customers and hosted seven job recruitment fairs. The Alexandria Works! program, which assists welfare recipients who are required to work, is part of JobLink.

Samuel Madden Homes Redevelopment

In August 1998, the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA) received an award of \$6.7 million in Federal Hope VI grant funds to help replace some of the 100 units of public housing that are to be demolished in the redevelopment of the downtown Samuel Madden Homes.

In June 1997, the ARHA Board of Commissioners, through a competitive bidding process, selected North Village, L.L.C., as the “preferred developer” for the mixed-income, mixed-density redevelopment of the site. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations required ARHA to solicit and consider a proposal submitted by the affected tenant organization. A dispute followed regarding the appropriate tenant organization. It was resolved by the Federal courts in July 1998, in favor of the Alexandria Resident Council (ARC), as opposed to the Samuel Madden Homes Tenant Council.

Subsequently, ARC in conjunction with a development team that ARC selected, made a proposal to

ARHA. In March 1999, HUD determined that ARC's proposal materially met ARHA's terms of sale, with the exception of securing a firm financial commitment and ARHA was required to allow ARC no less than 90 to secure this commitment. After the 90 day period, ARHA determined after review by ARHA staff, city staff and a financial consultant, that the firm financial commitment had not been met. ARHA will request the Federal court to remove its order over ARHA so that ARHA can file a disposition and demolition plan with HUD and negotiate a contract with the North Village, L.L.C.

Homeownership Programs

In FY 1999, the Office of Housing made 64 homeownership loans to low and moderate-income people who live or work in the City. This is a 68.4% increase from FY 1998. The City also contracted with Housing Counseling Services, Inc. to provide homeownership counseling to prospective applicants for the City's programs. In addition, the City's fifth annual Homeownership Fair attracted an estimated 650 potential home buyers.

Settlement occurred on 15 of the 16 moderately-priced Stevenson Court Condominium units, which were constructed using federal HOME monies provided by the City.

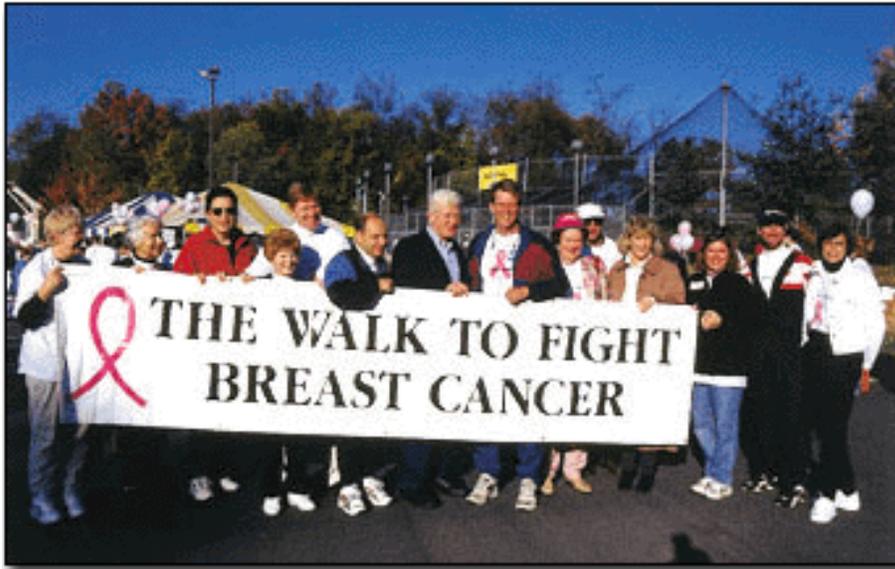
The City enhanced its home buyer program for law enforcement officers, who are eligible for up to \$25,000 in homeownership loans, if they purchase in targeted areas.

Fair Share Task Force

In May, City Council approved the final report of the Fair Share Task Force. The group was charged with making recommendations for achieving a balanced, integrated City and avoiding over-concentrations in federally-assisted rental and special needs housing and reviewing the City's five-year housing plan.

Final recommendations were:

1. Support targeting new projects to non-concentrated areas within the City and oppose projects that would increase subsidized rental housing in any of the six most concentrated Census tracts;
2. Encourage enhanced property management in assisted housing developments, particularly for Section 8 properties, through landlord and tenant education and other means, as well as strengthen code enforcement practices throughout the City;
3. Increase homeownership through neighborhood redevelopment and homeownership assistance programs;
4. Expand citizen involvement and information access by increasing outreach to citizens regarding housing and community development projects in the City, including projects serving special-needs populations and;
5. Address the variations in the quantity of assisted and special-needs housing in all appropriate regional forums.



The Fourth Annual Walk to Fight Breast Cancer was held last October to raise money for women who could not afford the cost of regular mammography screenings. The Walk is coordinated by the Office of the City Manager, the Office on Women and Inova Alexandria Hospital Foundation.

Successful Aging Luncheon

More than 275 people attended the May 13th Live Younger Longer Successful Aging Luncheon, featuring Dr. Walter Bortz, III, author of the book *Dare to be 100*. The luncheon was sponsored by the Alexandria Commission on Aging and City Council.

Summer Youth Employment Programs

As of August 1999, the Office of Employment Training (OET) placed 132 youth with 82 employers in the City's Summer Jobs for Alexandria Youth Program, which provides unsubsidized jobs in the private sector. The program encourages businesses to hire youth from economically-disadvantaged families.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention

Although teen pregnancy rates continue to decrease, the City has the highest rate in Northern Virginia, according to the Virginia Department of Health. In 1997, there were 282 teen pregnancies, or a rate of 60.8 pregnancies per 1,000 females, ages 10 to 19. Grants from the Freddie Mac Foundation, the Arlington Health Foundation and the Virginia Department of Health continue to fund teen pregnancy prevention programs in the City.

The Department of Human Relations' Office on Women's Project STEPOUT/MANHOOD continued its efforts to prevent teen pregnancy by providing discussion sessions for middle and high school age girls and boys during FY 1999 to help young people make responsible choices.

In January 1999, Mayor Donley created the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Reducing Teen Pregnancy, which is composed of City representatives and community leaders. Task Force members adopted the following two goals: to consider how, as community leaders, they can convey a common message that teen pregnancy is not acceptable behavior and to serve as a clearinghouse for new ideas and program development.

Disabilities Task Force

The City Manager's Disabilities Task Force, composed of City staff and the Commission on Persons with Disabilities, reviewed the City's parking policy for persons with disabilities and recommended to City Council that the City continue to allow persons with handicapped license plates or placards to park for free at metered spaces.

HIV/AIDS

In 1998, the City experienced improved outcomes in its HIV/AIDS efforts. For the year, 40 cases of AIDS and 54 new cases of HIV infection were reported in Alexandria, along with four AIDS-related deaths. This compares with 66 AIDS cases, 73 new HIV cases and nine AIDS-related deaths in 1997.

In addition, the Alexandria Community Services Board received a four year, \$1.4 million grant from the federal Center for Mental Health to provide mental health services for people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS.

Substance Abuse Services

During FY 1999, a total of 1,351 adults and 47 adolescents received substance abuse outpatient services, as compared to 886 adults and 78 adolescents in FY 1998.

Youth Mapping

Community YouthMapping, a joint project of the Youth Council and Youth Policy Commission, began in July of 1999. Teams of Alexandria young people walked door-to-door to identify the faces, spaces and places that are valuable resources for youth in the City. A total of 29 youth participated. YouthMapping is a public-private partnership, and the Robert S. Rixse Foundation is the chief private sector sponsor. Others are the William D. Euille Foundation, Advantor Holding Company, Ripening to Vintage Foundation, IDI Group Companies, Simpson Development Company and Eakin/Youngentob Associates.

Child Care

The Department of Human Services (DHS) provided child care services to an average of 990 families per month and an average of 1,333 children per month in FY 1999. DHS served all eligible families requesting subsidized child care and eliminated the waiting list.

Thirteen of Alexandria's 26 child care centers are now accredited. The Office of Early Childhood Development now presents Spanish-language workshops for family child care providers.

Arlandria Health Center for Women and Children

This neighborhood-based Health Center, now in its sixth year of operation, provides nurse-based, bilingual health services to low-income families living in Alexandria. In FY 1999, staff provided care to more than 1,754 women, infants and children in 7,400 clinic visits. The center is operated by a partnership between the Alexandria Health Department and Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services, Inc., a local non-profit organization. This partnership has been recognized with several awards, the latest of which is the 1999 Soroptomist International Mid-Atlantic Regional Award for Women Helping Women.