

## HCA receives New Community Investment Tax Credit (CITC) Allocation for 2015! Invest in Your Community in 2015.

In 2014, HCA was awarded \$50,000 in Community Investment Tax Credits (CITC), which we are thrilled to announce were all committed. This raised \$100,000, which allowed HCA to buy three sites for affordable housing in the community. Our donors also received \$50,000 in state tax credits! HCA was one of only fourteen community groups in the state to utilize all of its 2014 tax credits. We have received a new \$50,000 allocation for the 2015 tax year.

The CITC Program is designed to enable local residents and stakeholders to work with and through community development corporations (CDCs) like HCA to improve economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income households and other residents in urban, rural, and suburban communities across the Commonwealth.

**Donors with gifts of \$1,000 or more receive 50% of their gift in tax credits to apply against their own Massachusetts state tax liability for 2015. The entire gift can be claimed as a charitable donation on the federal income tax return as well.** Under this program, a \$10,000 gift to HCA would actually cost the donor less than \$5,000, as the \$5,000 in tax credits would be applied to the state taxes owed for the year or be refunded to the donor. If the credit exceeds the tax liability, the state will refund the difference. In addition, the federal charitable contribution deduction reduces any federal tax liability.

HCA received this allocation through the adoption of a community investment plan to undertake community development programs, policies, and activities as outlined in our 5-year Strategic Plan. This includes new affordable housing development, staff education and training, and support for the Homelessness Prevention Program.

If donors claim all the credits from the initial allocation for 2015, HCA will have \$100,000 in funding plus an opportunity to apply for more credits.

**Call now to make your CITC donation for your 2015 filing. Call Pam Hallett at 781-316-3429**

*The Community Investment Tax Credit Program was created by Chapter 238 of the Acts of 2012 and is administered by the Commonwealth's Department of Housing and Community Development. CITC requirements are set forth in Chapter 62 Section 6M and Chapter 63 Section 38EE; 760 CMR 68.00 and 830 CMR 62.6M.1. For more information, visit the Massachusetts CITC webpage: [www.mass.gov/hed/community/funding/community-investment-tax-credit-program.html](http://www.mass.gov/hed/community/funding/community-investment-tax-credit-program.html)*



14th Annual Walk for Affordable Housing

## Citizens Needed to Serve on New Community Preservation Committee

On November 4, 2014, voters approved the Community Preservation Act (CPA). The 2015 Town Meeting established the CPA Committee.

**The Town is now accepting applications from Arlington residents for four positions on this committee. The deadline to apply is July 10, 2015.** The Selectmen in conjunction with the Town Manager appoint the committee members.

The newly formed Community Preservation Committee will review all proposed projects and make funding recommendations to Town Meeting. Funds collected from the 1.5% surcharge on property taxes along with matching funds from the state can be used for preserving historic sites, creating affordable housing, developing outdoor recreation facilities, and protecting open lands. The CPA is estimated to collect about \$1.4 million annually. Funding of eligible projects should begin in 2016.

Projects will be proposed by community members, organizations, and the town. Please consider serving on the committee.

In addition to the Community Preservation Committee, there are also openings on the following town committees/boards: Master Plan Implementation Committee; Housing Plan Advisory Committee; Redevelopment Board; Vision 2020 Standing Committee. For more information go to [www.arlingtonma.gov/town-governance/all-boards-and-committees/committee-openings](http://www.arlingtonma.gov/town-governance/all-boards-and-committees/committee-openings)



**HCA's 14th Annual Walk for Affordable Housing in Memory of Mary E. Doyle** took place on Sunday, April 12, 2015. After the harsh winter, the sun shone brightly but not too hot on over 100 marchers as we partied at the Jason Russell house and then took our message through the town center. Thank you to all the businesses that provided gifts in kind — our raffle was a huge success! Thank you Cambridge Savings Bank as lead sponsor for your very generous donation. We raised approximately \$40,000!



**Hot Tamale Brass Band**



**Molly the Stilt Walker**



**Cambridge Savings staff**



**Walkers at Tufts Street**



**Walkers heading back**



**Mary Doyle's family**



*Thank you to our sponsors, marchers, donors and to all our supporters for your generosity! And thank you for having fun with carrying this important message!*



**100 marchers carry  
the message**



**14th Annual Walk for  
Affordable Housing in  
Memory of Mary E. Doyle**



## **2014 Annual Meeting Breakfast**

In spite of another predicted snowfall, HCA held the 2014 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, February 25, 2015, at Tango Argentinian Restaurant. More than 75 people were in attendance for breakfast. Bob Bowes Real Estate sponsored the event. The membership voted in two new members to the Board of Directors — Jonathan Wallach of Resource Insight, Inc., and Rich Bertolucci of Cambridge Savings Bank — and confirmed Deirdre Wescott as clerk and Carl Flumerfelt as Treasurer. Tom Nee continues as President.

Richard Duffy, Arlington's own Town Historian, presented a fascinating talk and slide show tracing the affordable housing issue through Arlington's history. An interesting insight is that Arlington as a municipality has always provided affordable housing. Unfortunately, the causes of poverty still remain the same: job loss, illness, and single parenting.

HCA honored the memory of the late Deacon Frank Mandosa from St. Agnes Parish with the annual community service award. Recipients of the Deacon Frank Mandosa Community Service Award possess a commitment to unite the community around affordable housing issues. This year, HCA was pleased to honor our 2014 Community Service Award winner, Reverend Christine Elliott, pastor of Calvary Church, United Methodist, who was instrumental in coordinating the collaboration of religious institutions around the Food Pantry expansion.

Paul Parravano resigned from the Board after many years of volunteer work. He was honored for his service.



**Reverend Christine Elliott**



**Paul Parravano**



# HCA Steps up to Assist Arizona Terrace Fire Victims — Regent Theatre Hosts Fundraiser

In the early morning hours of May 5 a fire broke out that destroyed 6 buildings in the Brookside Condominium Complex in Arlington, permanently displacing 36 households and temporarily making another 24 households homeless. One man died. HCA stepped up to work with the Council on Aging, the Police and Fire Departments, the Department of Health, the Town Manager's Office, and the Department of Veterans' Services to assist the victims.

Rita Shah, HCA's social worker, spent the better part of a day collecting information and consoling tenants who made their way to the Police Department. Since then HCA has worked to compile resources for the displaced. Staff have worked closely with the Council on Aging and the Department of Health to listen to the victims and to assist in locating permanent housing for those in need as well as to provide a calming influence and sympathetic ear.

To date most tenants are still homeless. Several are living in the woods, and the majority of others are sleeping on couches of friends and relatives. Those with Section 8 vouchers are finding rents in Arlington too high for the voucher.

HCA set up an online donation center to assist with security deposits, rent, and other necessities. HCA also negotiated with local management companies to give priority to these victims for available units. Sycamore Properties, Barrington

Management, Arlington Housing Authority, and Collins Management all agreed. Mission of Deeds in Reading has free good-quality second-hand furniture and brand-new box springs and mattresses and has also prioritized the victims.

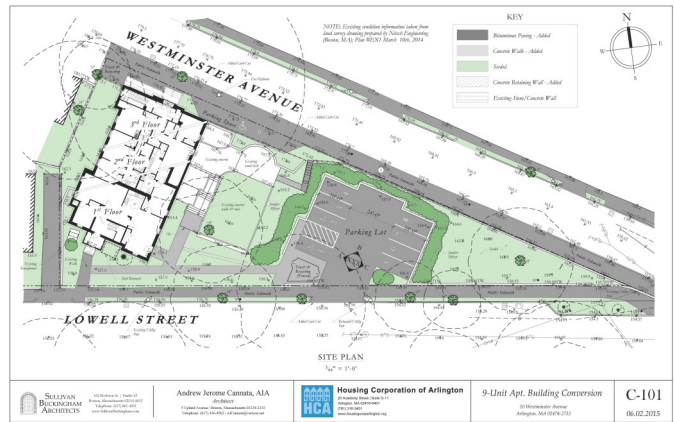
The Regent Theatre held a fundraiser for the victims which netted \$1550. About \$21,000 has been raised to date, but more will be needed.

**Additional donations can be**

**made at [housingcorporarlington.org](http://housingcorporarlington.org). Click on the Donate Now button. Please mark the designation section with FIRE. Or simply mail in a check. Please note FIRE in the memo section. Thank you!**



**Leland Stein presenting proceeds of Regent fundraiser to HCA**



**20 Westminister site plan**

## 20 Westminister 40B Application Submitted by HCA

In November 2014 HCA hosted a community meeting at our new 20 Westminister property to explain to neighborhood residents our plans for redeveloping the building into nine affordable housing units. Approximately 25 people attended. In general there was support for the plan. Much discussion ensued and many excellent suggestions were made, which were then incorporated into the project. Since then the project has progressed. HCA has submitted an application for a waiver of zoning, parking, and curb cuts, and is pursuing funding. A hearing in front of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be scheduled.



**Community meeting for 20 Westminister 40B**

## Arlington-Belmont Crew Wins Silver in Nationals

AB Crew, HCA tenants at 20 Westminister, took home the Overall Team Points Trophy in the Spring State Championships and have gone on to win the silver medal at the USRowing Youth National Championships in Lightweight Varsity Boys 4+.

Congratulations to AB Crew!

## Second Location for the Arlington Food Pantry Opens



**New Food Pantry signage**

The 117 Broadway building opened as the second site for the Arlington Food Pantry in November 2014. The site is on a bus line, is wheelchair accessible, and has a large parking area. The Food Pantry is open four days a month and serves over 76 households during open hours with meats, staples, bread, vegetables, and fruit.



**Interior of Food Pantry**

Leader Bank provided funding for the building acquisition, and a coalition of churches is helping to fund this food pantry expansion. The coalition includes Calvary Church, United Methodist; St. Paul Lutheran; Park Ave Congregational; St. Camilla's Catholic; First Parish Unitarian Universalist; St. John's Episcopal; Trinity Baptist Church; First Baptist Church of Arlington; Order of St. Anne-Bethany Convent; and Boston Church of Christ. HCA's eventual plan is to construct a new mixed-use building with commercial space on the ground floor and residential units above. The Food Pantry will occupy one of the commercial spaces. Thank you so much to all of our members and funders!

## Construction Starting on the Kimball Farmer House

HCA is about to start construction on 1173 Mass Ave, the historic homestead of early town benefactors and activists the Kimball Farmer family. HCA will restore the building to historical standards and create three affordable housing units: 1 two-bedroom unit and 2 one-bedroom units. The first-floor one-bedroom will be wheelchair accessible. The Arlington Redevelopment Board approved HCA's application to convert the property on November 3, 2014.



Funding is provided by Leader Bank, North Suburban Consortium, Federal Home Loan Bank, the Town of Arlington and state historic credits to be

purchased by Brookline Bank as well as funding from members who invested in the Community Investment Tax Credits (CITC). Thank you all for your ongoing support!

## Free Financial Workshop July 14

HCA is pleased to present a free financial workshop for families on Tuesday, July 14, 5:30-8:30 at the Arlington Senior Center, 27 Maple Street. Topics will include how to budget, save, invest, build credit and control debt. There will be an introduction to banking for kids ages 6 to 12 and plenty of time for Q&A with Leader Bank staff.

In February, Belmont Savings Bank staff members conducted a similar workshop for community members. Thanks to Belmont Savings Bank for a great workshop!



**On a cold, snowy Saturday in February, participants stay warm at financial workshop**



### **Board of Directors**

**Thomas Nee, President**

**Carl Flumerfelt, Treasurer**

**Deirdre Westcott, Clerk**

**Pamela Baldwin, Director**

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**Jonathan Wallach, Director**



## **Please Help Support the Arlington Community by Joining HCA**

**GO Green** by renewing your membership and making a contribution online today at [www.housingcorporationarlington.org](http://www.housingcorporationarlington.org), or please make checks payable to:

Housing Corporation of Arlington  
20 Academy Street  
Arlington, MA 02476  
781-316-3451

*All contributions are tax deductible*



Richard Duffy, Arlington historian, at HCA's Annual Meeting — see inside for info on CITC, CPA, and new sites for affordable housing



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