

My name is Nancy Hall and I am President of the Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA), celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> year of service! ACCA is an organization of 26 churches and more than 500 volunteers serving some of the poorest sections of eastern Fairfax County: Baileys Crossroads and Culmore, Annandale and Springfield.

On behalf of ACCA, I thank you for the opportunity to address the Board of Supervisors. We are pleased that, even with a significantly smaller increase in revenue than in recent years, the County Executive has proposed no cuts in human services funding in the Advertised Budget and has proposed some important and needed increases. **Please approve those increases!**

There were significant events for ACCA this year:

- (1) We have helped with eight mortgages since October of 2006. We are doing our part to assist with the County's efforts to **end homelessness** within ten years. As part of Rebuilding Together, ACCA will rehabilitate its 100<sup>th</sup> house this month. We have helped people move **out of the area**. We have provided funds for ten clients from the Salvation Army substance abuse program as they moved into the sobriety houses, to include a mother with a small child. In March of this year we paid \$24,781 in rent and \$3,525 in utilities. We helped grandmother and her two grandchildren with rent. We assisted a woman and her children whose abusive husband caused them to receive an eviction notice. ACCA paid \$1,570 to keep them housed. A family of six that includes two handicapped children needed \$2,000 in utility assistance. A man whose pay check bounced who needed three months' rent. If our funding is cut, we won't be able to help in these families.

(2) The child care funding crisis. We understand that it is a state funding shortfall, but the working families which rely on our Child Development Center for safe, dependable child care **do not**. All they know is that their options are suddenly very scary: quit work and have no income, or leave the children in questionably safe situations. For any working parent these are bad alternatives. I encourage you, as Dr. Judy Falkenrath will do as well on Wednesday, to press as hard as possible on Richmond to protect our working poor and their families. We ask that you add **six million dollars** to the amount for Child Care Subsidies in the Advertised Budget, the amount recommended by Fairfax Futures in its testimony to the Human Services Council.

We oppose reductions in funding for ALL human services. Most of the people we assist need multiple services, not just one. We rely on the Consolidated Funding Pool to provide the basic needs for the people we serve.

I, for one, am willing to pay my real estate taxes at the rate proposed by the County Executive so that the County has the resources to fund human services and other critical programs. We as ACCA endorse the “Penny for Affordable Housing Fund.”

Fairfax County enjoys a sterling reputation for taking care of its own. Thank you.