Basic Needs Assistance – Stepping Stones Program

United Community (formerly known as UCM, United Community Ministries) provides families and individuals in crisis with needs assistance to prevent homelessness. Prospective clients are advised to call the main office for an appointment with a counselor: 703.768.7106, weekdays 9am - 5pm.

WHO DOES UNITED COMMUNITY SERVE?
Our geographic service area is the Alexandria portion of southeastern Fairfax County. We generally serve community members who reside in the following zip codes: 22303, 22306, 22307, 22308, 22309, 22310, and part of 22060 (north of 9139 Richmond Hwy.).

Families with incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level can qualify for basic needs assistance. (For a family of 3, for example, this is annual income at or below $41,560.)

SERVICES INCLUDE:

Food Assistance
- United Community’s Food Pantry provides supplemental groceries once per week. Pantry hours to receive food are:
  - Monday 9am - 12 noon
  - Tuesday 3pm - 7:30pm
  - Wednesday 7am - 12 noon
  - Thursday 3pm - 7:30pm
  - Friday 9am - 12 noon
  - Last Sat. of month 8am - 11am (call in advance)

  - Assistance with SNAP eligibility and forms is available. Some families may be eligible for the monthly USDA Commodities program.
  - Free fresh produce distribution is generally the last Saturday of the month in United Community’s back parking lot, 8am - 11am. Please call 703.768.7106 to confirm the date for this month. Open to general public; no proof of need required. Arrive early and bring your own bags.

Rental Assistance
- Financial assistance (paid to landlord) is available with proof of eviction (once per 12-months).
- Proof of a crisis that prevented rent from being paid and eviction notice are required.

Utilities Assistance
- Qualifying clients are eligible for utilities assistance one time during winter months and once during summer season.
- Proof of a crisis that prevented bill from being paid and a disconnection notice are required.

Dental/Medical Prescription Assistance
- Referrals for emergency dental appointments made to Northern Virginia Dental Clinic.
- Assistance to pay for critical medical prescriptions.

Transportation Assistance
- Limited transportation vouchers available for employment interviews and medical appointments.

Financial Literacy and Other Assistance
- Monthly Financial Counseling Clinics by appointment.
- Seasonal supports include school supplies and holiday gifts for children.
- Our counselors make referrals to other community resources.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Call United Community’s main phone number at 703.768.7106, weekdays from 9am - 5pm.
Or call Fairfax County Coordinated Service Planning at 703.222.0880.