



**UNITED
COMMUNITY
MINISTRIES**

At the Heart of Community

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Friends of UCM Raise Nearly \$80,000 at the 2018 Capitol Steps Benefit

Alexandria, VA (November 20, 2018) – On Sunday, November 18, 2018, The Friends of UCM hosted the 27th annual Capitol Steps UCM Benefit, in the Madison Auditorium at the US Patent and Trademark Office in Old Town Alexandria. The Friends of UCM is a group of dedicated volunteers who provide fundraising and community outreach support to UCM. The benefit raised nearly \$80,000 to support vulnerable individuals, families, and children in Southeastern Fairfax County.

Close to 350 guests enjoyed a delightful evening with friends and colleagues, including Virginia Senator Scott Surovell, Virginia Delegate Paul Krizek, and Fairfax County Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck. The Title Sponsor was community members Doug and Eileen Kennett, and the Diamond Sponsor was AT&T.

“Poverty is no laughing matter for so many in our community, but we always appreciate the entertainment and laughter that the Capitol Steps group brings us every year to raise critical funds to empower our neighbors in need to transform their lives,” said Alison DeCoursey, UCM Executive Director. “We are grateful to The Friends of UCM and to our sponsors who make this event possible. Thank you to all our caring community members who support UCM in so many ways to make our programs available to our neighbors in abject poverty. Each and every one of you here help to transform lives,” she added. The full list of more than 45 event sponsors is available on the UCM website at ucmagency.org.

DeCoursey also made note of UCM’s 50th anniversary in 2019 by announcing Addy Krizek, former UCM volunteer development director and UCM Board member, and U.S. Senator Mark Warner, former UCM Board member, as Honorary Co-Chairs of the 50th Anniversary Celebration. A series of mission-oriented activities are being planned to ensure that as many members of the UCM community can share in the celebration throughout 2019.

“For nearly 50 years, UCM’s programs and services have been changing lives for the better every day,” said DeCoursey. “We envision a community where everyone thrives. There is still much work to be done. There is tremendous economic disparity and inequity across the region. Nowhere is that more prevalent

than along the Route 1 Corridor. UCM can do so much more with community support. We invite all community members to join us at the heart of community.”

For more information about UCM’s 50th Anniversary Celebration, contact Arleen Ramirez Borysiewicz, UCM Director of Development, at arleen.borysiewicz@ucmagency.org.

About United Community Ministries

United Community Ministries (UCM) envisions a community where everyone thrives. UCM empowers our neighbors in need to transform their lives through wrap-around programs and services that support children, youth, and families in Southeastern Fairfax County. For nearly 50 years, UCM has been advocating for, supporting, and serving low-income residents in Northern Virginia. Learn more at ucmagency.org.

Photos attached as 300+ dpi files to press issued via email to media outlets.

Photo 1

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Virginia State Delegate Paul Krizek and Fairfax County Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck were among the 350 guests and supporters who enjoyed the 27th annual Capitol Steps UCM Benefit.

Photo 2

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From left: UCM Executive Director Alison DeCoursey with event Co-Chair Diane Hanak, Friends of UCM President and UCM Board member Nancy Hawkins, and event Co-Chairs Trish Fowler and Judy Cahill.

Photo 3

File: 11-20-18_UCM_CapSteps_photo3



UCM will celebrate its 50th anniversary of service to the community throughout 2019. Honorary 50th Celebration Co-Chair Addy Krizek (center) is joined by (from left): Ken Disselkoen, UCM Board Chair; Tom Curcio and Elin Bohn, UCM Board members and 50th Celebration Co-Chairs; and Alison DeCoursey, UCM Executive Director.

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