



**UNITED  
COMMUNITY  
MINISTRIES**  
*At the Heart of Community*

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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**UNITED COMMUNITY MINISTRIES RECEIVES  
\$5,000 CVS HEALTH COMMUNITY GRANT:  
Grant to UCM is Part of CVS Health's Commitment  
to Increasing Access to Quality Health Care**



*Photo as 300+dpi attached to email for media distribution. File name: 12-15-15\_UCM\_CVS\_photo.jpg*

**PHOTO CAPTION:**

UCM's caring counselors work with families in crisis to provide emergency assistance for basic needs, including food, rental assistance, and critical medical prescriptions. In FY15, UCM served 10,200 individuals with services to equip, educate, and empower them to measurably improve their lives.

United Community Ministries (UCM) is pleased to announce it received a \$5,000 [CVS Health Community Grant](#). The Community Grants Program was created by CVS Health, as part of its commitment to building healthier communities. These grants support nonprofit organizations that are providing much-needed access to health care for at-risk and underserved populations. The support from CVS Health will help UCM provide critical medical prescriptions and supplies for people with limited incomes and no health insurance, who are struggling to make ends meet.

UCM's mission is to mobilize the power of community to equip, educate, and empower people to measurably improve their lives. Clients include adults of all ages, races, and ethnicities living in the southeast Fairfax County portion of Alexandria, Virginia. Clients in need might be newly unemployed, underemployed, elderly, homeless, married, immigrant, single head of household, veterans, and persons with mental or physical disabilities. What they have in common, however, is that 95% of families who come to UCM for assistance are living at or below the poverty level.

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“We are grateful for this generous funding that will enable us to provide emergency medical, dental, and prescription drug assistance to about 179 additional uninsured or under-insured people who are suffering with emergency illnesses or injuries, or chronic conditions,” says Richard Dobber, UCM Director of Social Services. “Despite the hundreds of people we can help each year, our waiting list for dental services, and half of the requests for prescription drug assistance, typically have to be turned down. Many of these chronic conditions, such as diabetes, are life-threatening if left untreated without medications.”

“As a pharmacy innovation company, we are committed to helping people on their path to better health. We are proud to support organizations that increase access to quality health care because we know their efforts are critical to delivering better community health,” says Eileen Howard Boone, Senior Vice President, Corporate Social Responsibility and Philanthropy, CVS Health. “We are pleased to support the work that UCM does in the community, and we look forward to working with them to help advance their program’s mission.”

UCM was selected to receive a grant through the CVS Health Community Grants 2015 application process. Grants were awarded to organizations, such as community health centers and mobile health clinics, which support CVS Health’s commitment to enhance the health and well-being for at-risk and underserved populations by offering quality health and rehabilitation services and health education. The goal of the CVS Health Community Grants Program is to increase access to health care services for underserved populations to help ensure they receive the medical care they need.

#### **About UCM:**

**United Community Ministries (UCM)** mobilizes the power of community to equip, educate, and empower people to measurably improve their lives. For more than 46 years, UCM has provided a vital connection between people in need and the people committed to helping them thrive. Services include:

- **Immediate Help.** For families and individuals in crisis, UCM provides food, financial aid, counseling, and referrals to other resources.
- **Education and Employment.** Services such as job training and coaching, full-day early care and learning, ESL and citizenship classes, and parental education help people achieve stability and self-reliance.
- **Community Engagement.** UCM’s neighborhood centers, with after-school programs and leadership training, engage youth and families in skill-building and broader social networks for success.

In Fiscal Year 2015, thanks to generous community support, UCM provided life-changing assistance to 10,200 individuals in 4,000 families in the Alexandria portion of Fairfax County. This included 5,000 children – more than any other agency in the Huntington-Mount Vernon area.

#### **About CVS Health**

**CVS/pharmacy**, the retail division of CVS Health (NYSE: CVS), is America’s leading retail pharmacy with over 7,900 locations. It is the first national pharmacy to end the sale of tobacco and the first pharmacy in the nation to receive the Community Pharmacy accreditation from URAC, the leading health care accreditation organization that establishes quality standards for the health care industry. CVS/pharmacy is reinventing pharmacy to help people on their path to better health by providing the most accessible and personalized expertise, both in its stores and online at CVS.com. General information about CVS/pharmacy and CVS Health is available at [www.cvshealth.com](http://www.cvshealth.com).