



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

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**PHILIP E. GRAHAM FUND RECOGNIZES
UNITED COMMUNITY MINISTRIES WITH \$50,000 GRANT AWARD**

United Community Ministries (UCM) is pleased to announce it has been awarded a \$50,000 competitive grant from the Philip E. Graham Fund.

"We are grateful to the Philip Graham Fund for this generous grant," says Nichelle A. Mitchem, UCM Executive Director. "We applaud the Foundation's commitment to improving the health and wellbeing of our community – and of our organization. These funds will be used to upgrade UCM's information technology infrastructure, so that we can continue to help vulnerable people overcome crises and gain self-sufficiency."

Since 1969, UCM has been a safety net for people in the Alexandria portion of Fairfax County who have fallen on hard times. "We are grateful for the Philip Graham Foundation's recognition of the profound need for the programs and services that UCM provides – and the impact we make together to change lives for the better," Mitchem continues.

Established in 1962, the **Philip E. Graham Fund** is named in memory of Philip L. Graham, who was publisher of The Washington Post from 1946 to 1961 and president of The Washington Post Company (now Graham Holdings Company) from 1947 to 1963. From its inception, the Fund's mission has been to use its resources for the betterment of the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area and to support activities that foster improvements in the fields of journalism and communications.

Reflective of its determination to respond to a wide range of community needs, the Fund's grants lists are broad and varied. Grants are awarded across five interest areas, including Arts & Humanities, Community Endeavors, Education, Health & Human Services, and Journalism & Communications. Grantees include both large, regional organizations as well as small, community-based groups; all share a commitment to our community. The Fund awards grants across fifteen jurisdictions in the metropolitan area.

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, 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.

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