



# Centreville Labor Resource Center

YEAR 1, Volume 10

**October 2012**

**CLRC Thanksgiving Feast for Workers and : Wednesday, November 21 7PM– 9PM**

**CLRC First Year Anniversary Celebration and Open House, Saturday, December 1, 2PM-4PM**

**CIF Board Meeting, Tuesday, November 7PM at the CLRC**

## Fall in Full Swing!

Fall is gearing up to be a busy time for the CLRC. Folks are coming up with creative ways to hire to get those last-minute projects done before the holidays and before the cold sets in and Northern Virginia goes into hibernation. We are planning for the slowing of the work season and finding ways to use our time wisely; our peer education workshop is evolving into a general handyman repair workshop and we will be adding an evening electricity workshop during the week as well.

We are grateful that Hurricane Sandy spared our area for the most part, and our hearts go out to all who have been affected by the storm elsewhere. For those of you who have clean-up and repair needs from the storm, (or have friends that do!) please keep us in mind for those jobs. While the CLRC closed for Sandy we plan open during most other weather events, especially snowstorms. Think of us when it's time to dig out!

## Anniversary to Celebrate!

CIF will celebrate one year of Labor Resource Center operation with an open house on Dec 1 (Saturday), 2-4 pm, at CLRC. There will be special awards for our community supporters, good food, and music to enjoy. There will also be door prizes, so don't miss the opportunity to win! Catch more details in the November newsletter! Volunteers for the big event can contact co-chairs Ann Gillen & Marci Huntsman, or call the Center, 703-543-6272.

## Learning With the CLRC

October has been a great month for education. We have had 60 participants in our volunteer-led ESL workshops in the last month. There were also over 15 hours of drywall training this month with around 8 participants each session. Alice, Molly and two workers also attended the Virginia Immigrant Advocacy Summit in Annandale. Workers learned about how immigrants affect the local economy and how local and state governments can impact their daily lives. All were able to meet and learn from advocates and service providers from all over the state of Virginia.



## Did you know?

Over half of day laborers experience non-payment for work in a calendar year. This can range from days to weeks of unpaid labor.



## Centreville Day

Many thanks to everyone who visited the CLRC table at Centreville Day. Staff and volunteers had a blast meeting new people from the area. Workers were also able to showcase some of their hidden talents such as balloon-animal making and signing.

## Thanksgiving Feast

The CLRC will hold its first annual Thanksgiving feast for workers and volunteers. What could be more fitting than honoring the original Thanksgiving where different groups of people were able to come together to share a meal? We plan to serve the American staples generously provided by the office of Jose Aunon, DDS. We will also be asking workers to share some of their dishes from home to create a diverse and delicious feast. The event will be held at the center from 7pm to 9pm Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, just in time to fuel up for

**Molly Maddra, Interim Director**  
**5956 Centreville Crest Lane, Centreville, VA 20121**  
**703.543.6272 (phone) 703.543.6274 (fax)**  
**Contact@CentrevilleLRC.org**

### CIF Annual Meeting: New Board Elected, Volunteers Recognized

CIF elected four new members to the **Board of Directors** at the third annual meeting, October 23, at Mt Olive Baptist Church. The Board welcomed Terry Angelotti, Ed Duggan, Carlos Cunha, and Luis Flores to new 3-year terms.



CIF recognized volunteers who have donated countless hours during the first months of CLRC operations.

In less than 10 months **Stephen Vandivere** gave more than **300 hours** to Center operations support.

Other operations volunteers who gave more than 50 hours included Jerry Foltz, Sunny Thapa, Angelotti, Jim Daniels, Terry Juhee Hwang, Mike Gillotte, Gene George, and Chris Cruz. Top ESL volunteers, with more than 50 hours of service, were Esther Holtermann and Alice Foltz. Top volunteers to general operations were Miki Carrillo, Carlos Gonzalez, and Alejandro Santiago.



In 10 months, 60 volunteers donated more than 1500 hours to the Center.

**CIF** also recognized retiring Board member Joe Gillen, who continues as a great volunteer; and first Director Shani Moser, who accepted a teaching position at Madison HS.

### Fiesta Planning: Silent Auction

Remember the silent auction held at the Spring Fiesta last year? Auction planners would appreciate your thinking of what you can donate for the next one. It's a great fund-raiser.

There are 3 ways you could help:

1. If you're shopping for gift items in the next few months, or receive a gift you can't use but someone else could, donate it to CIF, to be part of a theme basket.
2. You could start filling a whole basket now, to donate in the Spring, ready for bidding.
3. Closer to Fiesta time, ask a merchant in Centreville to donate an item or service. It's good advertisement and brings in new customers for them. Let the committee know if you have a commitment, so we don't ask the same merchant twice.

What could you shop for?

- Baskets that are attractive and stand on a table and hold items for an auction. The baskets don't need to be too large. It takes more to fill them if they're too large!

- Items that could go into a basket, using the theme categories of:

Girl's basket, Boy's basket, Games, Snacks, Beauty or Health, Gardening, Stationery, Cooking, Sewing, Scrapbooking

*What ideas can you suggest?*

For more information, contact Betsy Pugin at [betsy156@verizon.net](mailto:betsy156@verizon.net)

### New volunteer needs

The CLRC would like to expand education programs to take advantage of workers' free time due to the slowing work season. We need volunteers to head up a computer literacy project, help us produce quality resumes for our workers and teach work skills such as tiling and painting. If you or someone you know would like to help with these efforts, please contact the center.

### A Note From Phillip, a Volunteer:

My favorite part of being a volunteer at the Labor Resource Center is seeing the familiar faces as they walk in the door every day. I love the wide-eyed grins which accompany recognition. One of my favorite smiling faces is that of *el hombre de dos*

*nombres* (the man with two names) as I secretly call him. I have only spoken with him three times, but in my mind I have already turned him into a mysterious cowboy in the ilk of those characters from old Clint Eastwood Westerns. Unfortunately, he comes across as very non cowboy-like. I remember when he told me about how people teased him about having two first names. *El hombre de dos nombres* is a great example of how volunteering at the center is all about the smiles.

Five years ago, I was president of a recreational league. My friend asked me how I got elected. I told him that all you have to do is notice people and make them feel important. Smile at them, give them a pat on the shoulder, and let them know that you see them. Imagine how important it is to not have people look past you when you are alone, in unfamiliar territory, and a thousand miles away from your family. There are several excellent ways to offer time as a volunteer at the Labor Resource Center. A volunteer can teach English as a Second Language, help with administrative work, or offer skills knowledge like how to install drywall. However, the first step is to make the laborers feel a little more at home by giving them a familiar face when they walk in the door.

