



virginia
interfaith
center

FOR PUBLIC POLICY

2013 annual report

our mission

To empower Virginians to create social justice for all by advocating for systemic change.

our vision

A world where people of all faiths cooperate to create compassionate communities that are just, peaceful, equitable and sustainable.



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Dear Friends,

I am pleased to report that 2013 was another year of growth and forward thinking from the staff and members of Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy. The Center continues to receive broad-based respect and support from decision-makers and advocates alike. This support allows us to lead, on behalf of the faith community, on issues of greatest importance to our members.

The accomplishments of the Center during the 2013 legislative session were made possible only with the support, dedication and passion of our members. Center staff was also present throughout session and partnered with you to amplify our voice for low-income and under-represented communities. Together, we achieved a number of legislative successes during the 2013 Session, including: maintaining the moratorium on uranium mining; keeping the Medicaid expansion conversation moving forward; successful restoration of funds for the Department of Labor to investigate wage theft claims from low-wage workers; and substantive debate on higher educational opportunities for Virginia's undocumented immigrants. Greater details of our 2013 advocacy efforts can be found later in this report and our 2013 Faithful Advocacy Report.

Our newest program, Virginia Consumer Voices for Healthcare, has had a busy year as they have helped educate consumers about the new insurance marketplace and changes in health care laws. This has been accomplished through a variety of partnerships, regional mini-grants, direct outreach and education events. Additionally, we remain focused on the importance of expanding Medicaid to provide quality and affordable coverage to hundreds of thousands of low-income Virginians. Throughout 2013 we brought the voices of faithful advocates to the debate on expansion during the legislative session, and through the various avenues provided by the Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission.

Throughout the last year we have also witnessed growth in our membership, chapters and fundraising efforts. Our local chapters have continued to thrive, with a marked increase in membership and the creation of a new chapter in the Greater Piedmont Region outside of Warrenton. Additionally, we have built on our work in Virginia Beach by adding a Hampton Roads Organizer to our staff, who has worked to strengthen our relationships with local advocates and congregations alike. Finally, 2013 was our first year participating in the Amazing Raise; an event structured to help Richmond based non profits raise funds from their own members and compete for grants from the Richmond Community Foundation. During the 36-hour event, we received more than 111 donations that totaled more than \$8,250. These funds helped us reach some important matching goals, bringing our grand total raised to more than \$15,000!

When I reflect over the last year I am filled with gratitude for all we have accomplished together. I hope you are as encouraged as I am with the findings outlined in this report. As another year comes to an end, we are preparing to continue this work and seek new opportunities to advocate for social justice with hope, strength and focus.

Sincerely,



Marco A. Grimaldo



Marco A. Grimaldo
President & CEO



2013 policy and advocacy

For the 31st year, the Virginia Interfaith Center helped passionate, faithful advocates navigate the halls of the General Assembly to voice their concerns on a range of policy and budget priorities. During the 45-day long session of the 2013 Virginia General Assembly, our legislators made thousands of policy decisions and were also tasked with updating Virginia's biennial budget. This year, the most contentious budget debates took place around the transportation package and whether or not Virginia should expand Medicaid under the provisions of Affordable Care Act (ACA), the later was a top priority for the Center and many social justice advocates throughout the Commonwealth.

policies affecting the working poor

During the budget negotiation process in 2012, the General Assembly eliminated those positions at the Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI) responsible for investigating claims that employers have not paid their employees for work already completed. Instead, the claims were out sourced to a law firm, which initially only took claims over \$2,500 and then stopped taking them altogether. This left wronged workers with no recourse, and disrupted the lives of many low-wage workers and their families. During the 2013 Session, advocates were successful in passing budget amendments to correct the funding problem at DOLI and help ensure that the agency had staff to help wronged workers.

medicaid expansion

Medicaid is a public health insurance program for low-income Virginians that is paid for through a joint partnership between the federal and state governments. Unfortunately, Virginia's current eligibility standards make it very difficult to qualify for Medicaid. But starting on January 1, 2014 the ACA gives states the option to increase Medicaid eligibility to cover more low-income people. It is estimated that this expansion could benefit as many as 420,000 new Virginians, primarily low-income parents and working adults who are not offered coverage through their employers. During the 2013 session the debate around expansion resulted in a compromise, the creation of the Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission (MIRC), which was charged with monitoring progress on reforms mandated by the General Assembly and making a determination on expansion. The Center and VCV mobilized advocates throughout the year to educate members of the Commission and advocate for a responsible expansion as quickly as possible.

uranium mining

Over the last few years advocates have persistently voiced their concerns about the health and safety risks associated with mining uranium in Virginia. This year legislation was introduced attempting to lift the 30 year old ban by directing the appropriate state agencies to create permits and regulations for mining just for the Cole's Hill site in Pittsylvania County. However, the message from advocates was clear and both the House and Senate bills were defeated.

immigration reform

As faithful advocates we seriously heed the call to "welcome the stranger among us" and during the 2013 Session advocated for bills that would have extended in-state tuition at Virginia's higher education institutions to those youth who qualify for legal presence under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program. The bill received more substantive debate in the House than ever before, and passed one committee before it's ultimate defeat in the Appropriations Committee. However, the movement was significant and an achievement for immigrant advocates.

member engagement

center chapters

The Center has 4 core Chapters in Northern Virginia, Richmond, Hampton Roads and the New River Valley. In 2013 a new Northern Piedmont Chapter was formed in Warrenton. These local Chapters develop and host educational programs suited to the needs and interests of their communities throughout the year, and help arrange for small groups of constituents to visit their local Delegates and Senators to discuss VICPP policies. During 2013 our Chapters hosted 12 educational programs, ranging from film screenings to panel discussion to Social Justice Universities - our program about the call to advocacy, the legislative and budget process, and effective advocacy on pressing policy concerns. Programs of particular note this year were: a Richmond film screening on health care, which included a panel discussion with a UVA Emergency Room doctor featured in the film and a local free clinic director; the Hampton Roads SJU which featured Dr. Quentin Kidd, Director of The Center for Public Policy at Christopher Newport University; and the inaugural event of the Northern Piedmont Chapter at the Hill School in Middleburg which included a screening of *A Place at the Table* and a simple soup dinner featuring bowls and soups made by students at the school.

education

In addition to the great work of our Chapters, the Center works to engage and educate other communities on pressing policy issues. During the course of 2013 the Center also hosted or partnered with other organizations to host: film screenings in Charlottesville and Harrisonburg; a Social Justice University with the Muslim community at the ADAMS Center; numerous community conversations on the moral imperative for environmental justice; educational programs on a Virginia pilot program allowing congregations to take advantage of solar panel installations; and a webinar on climate change with Rev. Rich Cizik and climate scientist Dr. Michael Mann. In addition, we actively participated in immigration reform efforts, including rallies outside Rep. Cantor's office, legislative advocacy, grass roots education and engagement, and even fasting on the part of the Center's President, Marco Grimaldo.

For the second year, the Center utilized September as Poverty and Hunger Awareness Month with our members and the public. This year Center staff created and shared a new bulletin insert about the issue with our membership. The resource included a prayer for people of faith to reflect on together throughout the month and information about related advocacy opportunities.

legislative and policy engagement

Through our action alerts, advocacy days, and media engagement, Center members were able to participate in the policy making process in a variety of ways. This year nearly 300 advocates attended our annual advocacy day, the Day for All People. In addition, more than 800 Virginians responded to our action alerts, resulting in over 1,500 contacts with legislators in the form of phone calls, e-mails, letters and personal visits. In 2013 we also continued to support denomination-specific lobby days, including United Methodist Day and Presbyterian Day.

Additionally, Center members played a key role in determining the 2014 policy priorities of the Center through their participation in an online poll last summer. The poll results indicate that the issue of poverty and hunger clearly weighs heaviest on the hearts of our members. The other top area of interest were access to health care, environmental justice, comprehensive immigration reform and reducing gun violence - a new issue for the Center that received overwhelming support in the poll.



Center members learning about solar panel options for their congregations from the United Methodist's solar installation in Richmond.



Participants in the Center's annual advocacy day, The Day for All People, hear from state Senator Donald McEachin.



Center CEO, Marco Grimaldo, and Bishop of the Virginia United Methodist Conference, Young Jin Cho, speak to a legislator at the General Assembly building.



Advocates in Fredericksburg learning about the importance of Medicaid Expansion from Sister Mary Ellen Lacey, one of the Nuns on the Bus.



VCV Director, Kathy May, speaks with a local TV station about new options available to consumers in the health care marketplace.



Congressman Bobby Scott and VCV Director Kathy May help educate Virginians about changes under the Affordable Care Act.



Medicaid Expansion supporters wore VCV's blue Everyone Needs Coverage t-shirts at the public hearing of the Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission.

virginia consumer voices for healthcare



Throughout 2013 Virginia Consumer Voices for Healthcare (VCV) focused on educating consumers about health reform implementation with particular emphasis on reaching diverse communities that will benefit most from the new coverage options.

To reach consumers, VCV hosted or participated in a number of meetings, forums, panels, health fairs and workshops during the year. These included three presentations for constituents of U.S. Congressman Bobby Scott, workshops in conjunction with representatives from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, a rally for students at George Mason University, a small business conference in Virginia, a health fair in an mixed-income African American neighborhood in Richmond, and a large health fair at a historically African American university in Norfolk. Approximately, 2,500 consumers attended the events VCV participated in.

In January, VCV contracted with New America Media (NAM) to host an Ethnic Media Briefing on health reform issues to bring information to a broad range of ethnic communities around the state. Representatives from five ethnic media outlets (Thai, Indian, Vietnamese, Korean and Ethiopian) attended the briefing. The story was also distributed to other outlets, including the Spanish papers in Virginia.

In June, VCV received additional funding from Community Catalyst to support robust outreach and education about the new health care Marketplace. VCV used the opportunity to launch the Everyone Needs Coverage campaign – a coordinated effort to ensure that a large, diverse cross-section of Virginians has knowledge about the elements of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and is enrolled in the new Health Insurance Marketplace. In its outreach and education efforts, VCV also provides information about health care options to Virginians who fall into the “Medicaid gap.”

As a part of the Everyone Needs Coverage campaign, VCV contracted with four nonprofit organizations in different regions of the state. These organizations will use their local expertise and relationships to reach and educate those who need coverage. Partners include the Virginia Rural Health Resource Center in Southwest Virginia; CONTACT Listen Line in Southside Virginia; Northern Virginia Family Service; and Williamsburg-James City County Community Action Agency.

In addition, VCV provided funding to the Virginia Community Healthcare Association to support training and technical assistance for Marketplace enrollment specialists. This training enhanced the enrollment specialists’ ability to explain coverage options to consumers, many of whom will be using health insurance and regular care for the first time in their lives.

New funders for the project this year include the Consumer Health Foundation, which awarded \$30,000 to VCV and an additional \$30,000 to the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy for health care work. In addition, The Center was able to secure additional funding from the Meyer Foundation building on a relationship the VCV director had with the program officer at the Foundation. The new funding allows VCV to participate more fully in advocacy activities with legislators and at the General Assembly. Finally, over the year, twenty additional organizations became members of the VCV coalition.

financial overview

BY THE NUMBERS:

511
*members joined
between January
2012 and June 2013*

17%
*increase in
members over
prior 18 month
period*

25%
*increase in
membership
support since 2010*

111
*donations received
during the 36 hour
Amazing Raise event,
September 2013*

79%
*percent of all
revenues spent on
Center programs in
FY 2012*

The past 12 months have been a time of growth at the Center both financially and in terms of our membership support. Our membership grew by 17% over the first half of 2013, with more than 500 individuals supporting our work financially. Last year at the Center's Annual Meeting, we introduced the newest tool through which individuals can impact our advocacy efforts – The President's Fund for Advocacy Innovation. The President's Fund allows us to have the flexibility to respond to emerging issues and react to timely opportunities that maximize our advocacy efforts. This year, the Center was able to leverage resources from the President's Fund to add advocacy capacity to our staff. In July, we brought on a full-time organizer for Hampton Roads to help build new relationships in the region's faith community, implement programs such as Social Justice U and grow the Center's membership. Individual giving, including membership, has continued to grow in 2013, as we near our ambitious goal of more than \$80,000 in individual gifts by the end of the year.

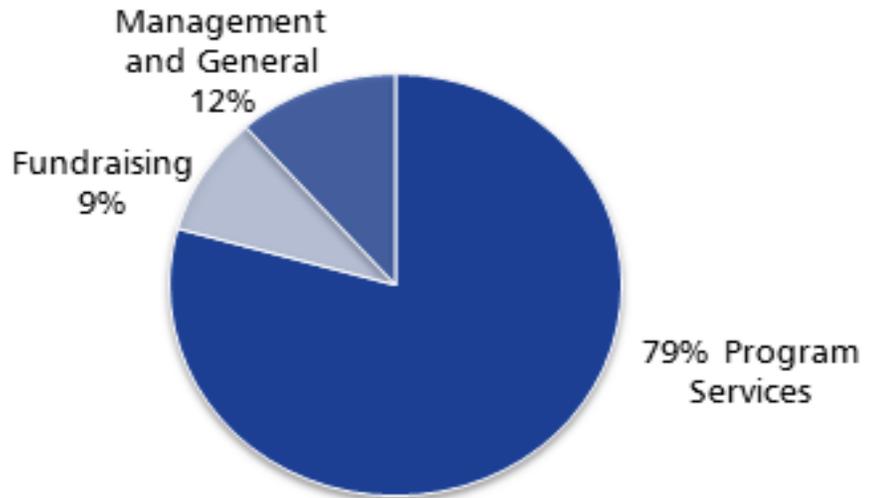
The Center continued to receive significant grant resources for our program areas to reduce poverty, consumer finance protections, and environmental justice, among others. Additionally, we also experienced significant growth in our healthcare program, Virginia Consumer Voices for Healthcare. While funding was renewed by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to continue this work into 2014, we also received additional funding from RWJF to increase our capacity around Outreach, Education, and Enrollment efforts of the new healthcare marketplaces. These funding sources, in addition to several others, provided more than \$500,000 for our healthcare priority area over the past year.

In September, the Center also participated for the first time in the Amazing Raise, an online giving contest sponsored by The Community Foundation Serving Richmond and Central Virginia. During the 36 hour event, we received 111 donations totalling \$8,250. These funds helped us to reach some important matching goals, bringing our grand total raised to more than \$15,000!

The Center undergoes an annual, external audit of its financial records to ensure proper tracking and stewardship of donations, grants, and other resources. The graphs and charts on the following pages are summaries of the audit findings for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012. For a complete copy of our 2012 audit (including endnotes), as well as our 2012 990 Federal IRS filing, visit our website or contact the Center's office (804-643-2474).

| Financial Snapshot | 2011 | 2012 |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Assets | \$1,354,776 | \$1,200,583 |
| Support and Revenue | \$843,292 | \$571,122 |
| Functional Expenses | \$505,284 | \$703,712 |
| Program Expense as % of total | 71.79% | 79.27% |

FY 2012 Functional Expense Allocation



| Revenue and Support, Year Ended December 31, 2012 | |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Grants | \$ 428,831 |
| Congregations | \$ 17,605 |
| Judiciary | \$ 29,125 |
| Membership | \$ 29,787 |
| Other Individual Support | \$ 20,221 |
| Other Contributions | \$11,793 |
| Rent Income | \$ 20,304 |
| Investments | \$ 13,456 |
| Total | \$ 571,122 |

Schedule of Functional Expenses Year Ended December 31, 2012

| | programs | fundraising | management and general | total |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| salaries | 249,930 | 45,625 | 56,982 | \$352,537 |
| staff benefits | 65,926 | 4,461 | 3,518 | \$73,905 |
| advertising | 8,909 | 32 | 38 | \$8,979 |
| bad debt | 9,634 | - | - | \$9,634 |
| bank fees | 2,470 | 400 | 467 | \$3,337 |
| books and subscriptions | 50 | - | - | \$50 |
| depreciation | 12,999 | 2,108 | 2,459 | \$17,556 |
| equipment and rental | 3,464 | 562 | 655 | \$4,681 |
| insurance | 4,480 | 726 | 847 | \$6,053 |
| investment fees | 2,761 | 522 | 448 | \$3,731 |
| miscellaneous | 3,541 | 459 | 535 | \$4,535 |
| occupancy | 7,603 | 1,233 | 1,439 | \$10,275 |
| communications | 14,905 | 707 | 825 | \$16,437 |
| postage and mailing | 2,565 | - | - | \$2,565 |
| printing and publishing | 13,836 | - | - | \$13,836 |
| professional fees | 20,111 | 3,262 | 3,805 | \$27,178 |
| program service | 44,369 | - | - | \$22,369 |
| supplies | 3,801 | - | - | \$3,801 |
| travel and meetings | 24,267 | - | - | \$24,267 |
| taxes | 4,436 | 719 | 840 | \$5,995 |
| cash awards and grants | 35,750 | - | - | \$35,750 |
| interest | 22,079 | 3,580 | 4,178 | \$29,837 |
| recruiting expenses | - | - | 4,394 | \$4,394 |
| total | \$557,886 | \$64,396 | \$81,340 | \$703,712 |

center membership

Membership in the Virginia Interfaith Center is more than an act of charity; it is a commitment to real social change and justice. Our members are the true heart of the Center and play important roles in determining our policy priorities, engaging in advocacy, and telling others about our work.

As of June 2013, the Center had more than 500 individuals providing financial support through their membership in the Center, an increase of more than 17% over the prior 18-month period. Financial support from our members has increased by nearly 25% since 2010. It is vital that we continue this growth to ensure our ongoing effectiveness as a moral voice for social change.



Your membership gift helps to pay for free educational programs and advocacy trainings throughout Virginia, as well as provide important tools to inform legislators and the public. Your gift matters! Every dollar from your donation helps us to leverage additional resources from foundations and organizations that strengthen our ongoing efforts and help develop new, strategic opportunities.

how it works:

- Make at least a \$50 contribution to the Virginia Interfaith Center. Gifts above \$50 are encouraged and are essential for us to meet our financial goals.
- Make the gift anytime during the year. Your membership is good for one year, with major renewal efforts coming in the Spring and Fall each year.
- Participate in our Annual Priority Survey of members. Let your voice be heard on what issues are most important to you!
- Attend Center programs, and tell others about our work. You are our best advocate for others to learn about our the Center!
- Get involved in a regional chapter, or work with others in your area to start a new one!
- Attend our Annual Meeting, held each December, at no cost.

Become a member today, or renew your support for 2014, by making your gift online at:

www.learnprayact.org.

You may also become a member by mailing a check, made out to the Virginia Interfaith Center, to PO Box 12516 Richmond, VA 23241. The Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law.

supporting faith communities

The work of the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy is made possible through the generous financial support of individuals, congregations, denominational judicatories and other faith communities as well as a number of philanthropic foundations.

FAITH BASED FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Baylake United Methodist Women, Virginia Beach
Beth El Hebrew Congregation, Alexandria
Beverly Hills United Methodist Church, Alexandria
Blacksburg Presbyterian Church
Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Alexandria
Bon Air Presbyterian Church, Richmond
Charlottesville Friends Meeting
Church of the Brethren, Virginia District
Church of the Epiphany, Richmond
Church of the Holy Comforter, Richmond
Ebenezer Christian Church, Gore
Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Midlothian
Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia
Episcopal Diocese of Virginia
First Presbyterian Church, Richmond
First Presbyterian Church, Staunton
Ginter Park Presbyterian Church, Richmond
Grove United Methodist Church, Radford
Heritage Presbyterian Church, Alexandria
Herndon Friends Meeting
Holston Conference, United Methodist Church
Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, Alexandria
Langley Hill Friends Meeting, McLean
Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, McLean
Maury River Friends Meeting
Midlothian Friends Meeting
Mount Olivet United Methodist Church, Arlington
Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, Alexandria
Muhlenberg Lutheran Church, Harrisonburg
National Capital Presbytery
Old Presbyterian Meeting House, Alexandria
Presbytery of Eastern Virginia
Presbytery of Shenandoah
Presbytery of the James
Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Arlington
Richmond Friends Meeting
Roanoke Friends Meeting
Roanoke District Board of Missions, UMC
Rock Spring Congregational UCC, Arlington
Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond
St. Andrew's Church, Norfolk
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Richmond
St. Bridget Catholic Church, Richmond

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Arlington
St. Edward Catholic Church, Richmond
St. James Episcopal Church, Richmond
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Newport News
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Richmond
St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Williamsburg
Trinity United Methodist Church, Richmond
Unitarian Church of Norfolk
Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington
Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Blacksburg
Virginia Beach Friends Meeting
Virginia Conference, United Methodist Church
Virginia Synod, ELCA
Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church,
Richmond
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Charlottesville
Williamsburg Friends Meeting

FOUNDATION AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT

ACA Implementation Fund
Center for American Progress
Consumer Alliance of Virginia
Consumer Health Foundation
Cornerstones, Inc. - Reston
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Meyer Foundation
Moriah Fund
Norcross Wildlife Foundation
Regeneration Project
Richmond Region Energy Alliance
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

OTHER PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES

Arlington Interfaith Council
Baptist General Convention
Christian Church in Virginia
Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Virginia
Metropolitan Washington D.C. Synod, ELCA
Potomac Association of the United Church of Christ
Religious Society of Friends
Richmond Rabbinic Association
Virginia Council of Churches
Virginia Muslim Coalition for Public Affairs

board of directors

The Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy is governed by a Board of Directors, members serving in 2013 included:

CLASS OF 2013

Ms. Debra Linick, Secretary
Mr. Jim Burke, Chairman
Rev. Jonathan Heaslet, Treasurer
Rev. Jonathan Barton

CLASS OF 2014

Rabbi Jeff Arnowitz
Mr. Davis Balderston
Ms. Stacie Herring
Mr. Lynn Myers
Mr. Frank A. McKinney, III; Vice-Chair
Mr. Ibrahim Moiz
Dr. Ram Singh
Rev. Rhonda Wheeler

CLASS OF 2015

Mr. Ali Faruk
Ms. Leni Gonzalez
Ms. Erika Jones-Haskins
Rev. Dr. Diane Mosby
Mr. Paul Reagan
Bishop Don diXon Williams

2013 strategic planning

During 2013 the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy's Board of Directors has been working diligently to create a new Strategic Plan for the organization. Beginning several months ago, we engaged an experienced consultant to guide VICPP through a robust and open process. We began with an online survey that was sent to all VICPP members. The survey was supplemented with a series of in-person interviews with VICPP members, Board Members, allies etc. The results of the survey and interviews were analyzed in detail and from these, the VICPP Strategic Planning Committee created a set of 6 draft strategic goals. Over a series of conference calls, emails and in-person meetings, these strategic goals were revised, and strategic objectives were developed under each strategic goal. This draft list of Strategic Goals and Objectives will now be reviewed with Center Chapter leaders and members. The VICPP Strategic Planning Committee is excited about the high level of engagement, and passion that we have seen at every stage of the process. This energy shows how important the Center and its work are, and how committed our members are to building a better VICPP to foster a more just and compassionate Commonwealth.



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