

## **VOICE Secures Major Victories in Foreclosure, Youth Investment, & Affordable Housing in 2013** **Organizing Work Featured in USA Today, CNN, & Washington Post**



### **\$30 million Commitment for Housing Pilot in Prince William**

Our Bank & Foreclosure Accountability Campaign **secured \$30 million in commitments for VOICE's Prince William Restoration Fund from Bank of America, General Electric, and VA Housing Development Authority (VHDA)**. The fund will support a pilot that would (1) rehab 100 abandoned / blighted properties in neighborhoods devastated by foreclosure for affordable homeownership & rental housing, and (2) allow for the development of 1,500 units of rental housing over the next 15 years in Northern Virginia for families. VOICE announced the commitments at 500+ person action in Woodbridge, VA with Senator Mark Warner and representatives from Bank of America, General Electric, and VHDA. When JPMorgan refused to participate in the restoration fund, VOICE organized a direct action at their DC Private Banking Offices with 60 leaders. We'll be focused like a laser on JPMorgan in 2014. VOICE's pioneering work has garnered significant national media coverage by [USA Today](#), [CNN](#), and the [Washington Post](#). [See all of VOICE's media coverage from the last 6 months.](#)

### **Youth Investment Organizing Secures \$3 Million for Fields**



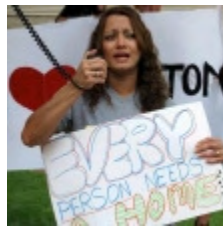
VOICE congregations - Bethlehem Baptist Church, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, & Mt Vernon Unitarian Church – partnered with West Potomac and Mount Vernon high schools' athletic booster clubs in a campaign to end disparities in the facilities that Route 1 youth use to play. In 2013 we increased the number of youth from Audubon Mobile Home Park, a heavily-immigrant community, involved in soccer & secured a commitment from the manager to build a mini-soccer field on the property, and won \$3 million from Fairfax County & FCPS to renovate the athletic fields at West Potomac & Mount Vernon high schools to synthetic turf. (Photo by Louise Krafft, Mount Vernon Gazette)



## Arlington Affordable Housing Gains

VOICE organized and helped **secure a zoning variance for 77 new affordable housing units** being created on land owned by Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing (APAH).

Off of this successful effort we **launched an Arlington Affordable Housing Campaign** at an action with 550 leaders to **get Arlington County to build 1,500 new affordable rental units for families making less than \$50,000/year on public and non-profit owned land in the next 3-5 years. This fall, VOICE is working to get 10,000 signatures for a petition to the county board backing our effort.** ([See more photos from the action by Todd Parola](#))



## Tenant Actions in Fairfax

We organized a **250-person One Reston Walk** where VOICE leaders and **Crescent Apartments** tenants got Board of Supervisors Chairperson Bulova and Supervisor Hudgins to support tenants with their goal of returning to the redeveloped complex. In Fairfax City, we organized with **Layton Hall** tenants to successfully get the city council to **require a developer to provide more generous relocation assistance to 110 tenants and include 5% affordable units in the redeveloped complex.** This is the **first time** Fairfax City has imposed affordable housing requirements on developers.



## New Members & Training in Alexandria

We are celebrating 3 new exploratory members - Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS), Region 4 Episcopal Churches, & Church of the Resurrection—all in Alexandria! Word of our organizing is spreading! As a broad based organization, VOICE hopes to expand our membership to include unions, schools, business and employee associations, health centers, community groups and other voluntary associations. [Learn more about membership here.](#)

Also, VOICE hosted our **first-ever Metro IAF 3-Day Training** on Organizing & Institutional Development June 13-15th in partnership with the VTS and the Episcopal Diocese of VA. We had 72 attendees and look forward to hosting more trainings in Virginia.



## Justice for Immigrants

After turning out 450+ leaders from 7 institutions to attend the April 10th **National Immigration Reform Rally** in Washington, DC,

[See photos](#) VOICE organized meetings with religious, business, and education leaders in **Representatives Frank Wolf (R) VA-10 & Robert Wittman (R) VA-8** districts to create a broad base for Comprehensive Immigration Reform.

We also **raised \$75,000 in our 2013 Grassroots Fundraiser**, spearheaded by VOICE leaders selling ads to businesses & individual donors, **to hire a bi-lingual organizer in Fall 2013.** We also held introductory Organizing Trainings in Spanish attended by 75+ new immigrant leaders from 9 VOICE institutions.

## VOICE Releases First Annual Report/Adbook Raising \$90,000 from the Leader-Led Fundraiser

[Download a copy of our 2012 Annual Report & Adbook](#) to see VOICE's progress and sponsors.

Thanks to the individuals, businesses, and institutions that contributed time and bought ads!