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Keep Making a Difference... Automatically!

We know that life gets busy and giving to charity is not always the first thing on our to-do lists. Here are some easy ways to put your giving on autopilot!



Become a monthly donor! It takes less than 5 minutes to set up a recurring gift to LARS on our website, or give us a call and we'll do it for you! You can change your gift amount or update your credit card at any time, and your payment information is always stored securely in our donor database. Some perks of monthly giving:

- You'll love the feeling of making a difference every month.
- You'll love how easy it is!
- You'll get less mail from us and help save paper. We'll mail just one end-of-year receipt for your records.
- You'll be happily surprised by the big impact you can make in a year with even a small monthly gift (the cost of one Starbucks trip!).

Go to www.laureladvocacy.org/donate, click the blue "DONATE" button, and select the "recurring" option to set up your monthly or quarterly gift. For help getting set up, or to update your gift amount or payment information, contact Laura Wellford at 301-776-0442 x27 or lwellford@laureladvocacy.org.



Give at work! Federal employees *and retirees* can support LARS through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Just like saving for retirement, your pledge per pay period is an easy way to make a big difference by the end of the year. Enrollment runs from September 9, 2019 until January 12, 2020. Just use LARS' CFC code **92544** on your enrollment form or online at www.cfcnca.org. Non-federal employers may also offer a workplace giving option through the United Way (our code there is **8843**) or through another third-party service. Ask about it at work!

THANK YOU for choosing to make a difference! Your action today puts food on tables, keeps families in their homes, and brings hope to people right here in our community.

Fifteen Years of Family Traditions, Crazy Costumes, and Pie!

Another landmark year for the Turkey Trot is upon us! Fifteen years ago, Laurel resident and avid runner Kelly Miller was looking for a Thanksgiving 5K to run with a friend. Not wanting to drive into DC on a busy holiday morning for a Turkey Trot, the new stay-at-home mom decided to start her own race right here in Laurel. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, she also decided that it should benefit a local cause. After lots of research, Kelly approached LARS with her plan. It was a no-frills affair that first year, but it brought neighbors and families together for the start of a new community tradition that would grow to become something bigger than anyone anticipated.



Today, our flock is almost 900 runners and walkers strong, raising over \$60,000 for LARS each year. We are so thankful to all the families and neighbors who have made the Turkey Trot a part of their holiday traditions! And a special thanks to the many generous local

businesses, congregations, and groups that sponsor this race, especially our “Top Turkey” for the past 6 years running, Cutlass Systems Engineering!

Will you be there for year fifteen? Registration is \$35 now through the end of October and \$40 from November 1 through race day. Sign up to run, walk, or “sleepwalk” at www.laureladvocacy.org/turkey-trot.

Questions? Contact Laura Wellford at lwellford@laureladvocacy.org or 301-776-0442 x27.

Because of You...

- ⇒ Ma’Neisha got the time and space she needed to get above water when her partner lost his job and she was unable to keep up with the bills on her own. With rental and food assistance, she was able to start making a plan for the future rather than worrying about being evicted.
- ⇒ One local veteran has a shiny new identification card! He came in recently to tell us that so much has changed since we helped him obtain his ID a few months back. After a year of living in his van, his new ID allowed him to get the disability benefits he needed, start saving, and find housing.
- ⇒ A senior citizen avoided becoming homeless after losing all of his savings to a scammer. With financial assistance to get caught up on rent, he will be able to stay in his home this winter.

Your Impact in FY2019

64,178 pounds of food donated
232 amazing volunteers
2,429 volunteer hours

887 households served
(1,251 adults and 896 children)

6,746 bags of food distributed
79 evictions prevented
373 holiday wish lists fulfilled

25 adults and **13** children went from living on the streets, in shelters and cars, or other unsafe conditions to living in their own apartments in Laurel.

7 households received one-on-one mentoring to improve financial habits and life skills. All participants are now working 40 hours a week!

To read our full Donor Impact Report for Fiscal Year 2019, visit www.laureladvocacy.org and click the link on our homepage.

Get Involved!

There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer at LARS this fall and winter, including helping with the Turkey Trot, Holiday Program, administrative work, and sorting food in the pantry.

This September, we welcomed a new Emergency Services Case Manager who will also serve as our volunteer coordinator. Please feel free to reach out and introduce yourself! Jazmin Haley-Warren can be reached at jwarren@laureladvocacy.org or 301-776-0442 x32.