

# NOVEC HELPS NEWS

## NOVEC HELPS DONATES TO ART FACTORY DAY OF THE DEAD CELEBRATION

This fall, NOVEC HELPS donated \$500 for the ARTFactory's "Día de los Muertos" (Day of the Dead) Celebration on Nov. 1, 2022. The event featured live music, traditional Mexican foods, and the art exhibit "Entre Dos Mundos" (Between Two Worlds) by Arlington artist David Amoroso.

"The event was great, and it was amazing to enjoy the live music of Mariachi Sol de Mexico," said Jessica Torres Cervetto, HELPS board member. "Mexican folk dances, pan dulce, hot chocolate, and the art exposition from Amoroso were absolutely incredible. Every piece of artwork reflected the expression of Mexican culture and of its people."

"As a member of NOVEC HELPS," she said, "I feel proud and honored to be able to support events like this one, which help bring our community closer together. It was an amazing celebration that gave us not only the opportunity, but the privilege, to be able to live and experience one of the many cultures within our community."



ARTFactory was founded in 1984 with the goal of enriching the quality of life in the Northern Virginia area. Located in the Hopkins Candy Factory in Manassas, this organization currently offers an art gallery space, theatre arts, visual arts education, dance classes, summer camps and more. To learn about upcoming events or how to get involved, visit their website [here](#).

*Top: Portraits by David Amoroso left to right: "Maria D Felix," "Pedro Infante," and "Javier Solis."*

*Bottom: NOVEC HELPS board member Jessica Torres Cervetto (left) and ARTFactory Gallery Director Jordan Exum with the exhibit "La Catrina."*



## NOVEC HELPS DONATES TO NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOOD RESCUE

In October, 2022 NOVEC HELPS donated \$1,000 to Northern Virginia Food Rescue for the "Hunger is Scary" fundraiser held at the rescue's headquarters in Manassas. This event is specifically timed around Halloween in preparation for the holiday season, which can be the most challenging time for those in need to put food on their tables.

Founded in 2020, Northern Virginia Food Rescue provides food for the hungry in our area by working with restaurants and grocery stores to pick up unused food and deliver it to people in need. Additionally, the nonprofit collects backpacks filled with easy-to-prepare foods for families, and they distributes boxes of food from the Capital Area Food Bank.

"This event was not only fun, but brought together so many people within the community," said NOVEC HELPS Treasurer Kim Love. "It was great to see so many people come out to support such a worthy cause."

*Above: Northern Virginia Food Rescue volunteers accept a \$1,000 donation from NOVEC HELPS representative Lisa Hooker, Kim Love, and Jessica Torres Cervetto.*



# NOVEC HELPS FOOD DRIVE

Throughout the month of November, NOVEC HELPS partnered with NOVEC employees and donated 413 pounds of nonperishable food items to area food pantries. The breakdown of donations by office location is:

- Balls Ford: 97 pounds
- Gainesville: 85 pounds
- Lomond: 177 pounds
- Loudoun: 54 pounds



“Thanks to the generosity of NOVEC employees, we were able to help those in need in our area,” said Nan Musick, NOVEC HELPS chair and president. “We couldn’t have done it without you all. Thank you so much!”

# ANNUAL DAY OF CARING

NOVEC HELPS thanks the 30 volunteers who participated in the group’s annual Day of Caring in October. This year, NOVEC HELPS partnered with NOVEC and Amazon Web Services (AWS) to provide yard work, cleaning, and house maintenance at the Willing Warrior Retreat in Haymarket. This organization provides a “taste-of-home” experience for wounded service members staying at Walter Reed Medical Center.

“The Warrior Retreat has always valued its partnership with NOVEC,” says Sarah Ford, Willing Warrior Retreat executive director. “We appreciate all the NOVEC and AWS volunteers who helped make the retreat a home away from home for our wounded warriors and their families.”



## Organizations NOVEC HELPS donated to August-December

**TOTAL DONATED: \$14,650**

Organization Assisted	Type of Organization
Prince William County Police Association	Social Welfare
Helping Haitian Angels	Social Welfare
Alzheimer's Association	Social Welfare
Brothers in Christ	Community Outreach
Fauquier For Immediate Sympathetic Help (FISH)	Social Welfare
Northern Virginia Family Service	Family Services
Northern Virginia Food Rescue	Family Services
ARTFactory	Social Welfare
Dale City Little League	Social Welfare
Appalachian Chamber Music	Adult Musicians
Chantilly Pyramid	Social Welfare
Summer Grace Foundation	Social Welfare
Boxes of Basics	Social Welfare
Here 4 Serve	Family Services
Volunteer Fairfax	Community
Stepping with Leaders	Community

## ***DONATE TO NOVEC HELPS***

You can help today by enrolling in payroll deduction! A few dollars a month can do a lot of good in our community. You can use payroll deduction to donate as little as \$2 per paycheck or make a one-time donation. Your generosity helps area nonprofits within the communities we serve.

All donations are tax deductible as a charitable contribution for federal taxes. To enroll, please return the form linked below to Tracy Gibson at [tgibson@novec.com](mailto:tgibson@novec.com).

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information and to enroll in Payroll Deduction.

## ***NOVEC HELPS NEEDS BOARD MEMBERS***

We are seeking new board members to donate their time and creativity during upcoming meetings and volunteer activities. Applicants qualify to participate in NOVEC HELPS following six months of employment with NOVEC. You must have supervisor approval when applying. Once on the board, members commit to regular meeting attendance and participation. If you would like to apply, complete the application and submit it to [novec-helps@novec.com](mailto:novec-helps@novec.com). Learn more at [novechelps.org](http://novechelps.org) Follow on [facebook.com/novechelps](https://facebook.com/novechelps)

