

A Letter to Our Neighbors

VOLUME 27 | JANUARY 2020

A Word from our Director

Important Dates:

January 21:

NEW EMPOWERED FOR LIFE
CLASS: 5:00-6:30PM THURSDAYS

February 8:

COMMUNITY WORKDAY: 9AM-2PM

February 14:

YOU CAN ACADEMY VALENTINE
CELEBRATION 3-5PM @ PINK
ELEMENTARY

February 20:

VOLUNTEER MEET & GREET:
6:30-7:30PM @ FNR

February 24:

COMMUNITY NIGHT OF PRAYER:
6:00-7:00PM @ FNR

February 27:

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY: 6:00-
7:00PM @ FNR

April 4:

RUN TO ATTACK POVERTY: 7AM
@ FNR

June 8-11:

MISSION WEEK 6-8PM @ JUAN
SEGUIN PAVILION

Happy New Year! As we begin 2020, Friends of North Richmond is excited to see what this year holds. North Richmond is a beautiful community filled with amazing men and women who have skills, talents, and passions that help our community function. This year we commit to listening to their voices more often and more intentionally. It is crucial that the future growth of our community is guided by the opinions and insight of its members. Our neighbors are the experts of North Richmond and their voices need to be heard. It is our honor to spend time listening, creating opportunities for their voices to be heard, and inviting our neighbors to be decision makers every step of the way.

This is one of the many ways we work to empower people to attack poverty in their life and community. The following pages are filled with stories of strength, courage and love, and I invite you to join us in celebrating the transformation and hard work of our friends of neighbors.



Elise Kaufman, Director

For more information
on ways to volunteer or
donate, email our
Director Elise Kaufman:
elise@attackpoverty.org



Remembering MLK



This month, we take time to pause and reflect on the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. As we closed down our offices earlier this month, we were reminded of how important it is to use our voices to bring justice and transformation to our communities. Stories are powerful, and we want to share some unique and notable facts about Dr. King's life with you.

"Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am, who I want to be, and what I can do, and use it for a purpose greater than myself."

--Martin Luther King, Jr.
January 15, 1929-April 4, 1968

Martin Luther King Jr. was born Michael King Jr. on January 15, 1929. At five years old, his name was changed after his father had taken a trip to Europe and was inspired by the teachings of Martin Luther, a catalyst of the 16th century Protestant Reformation.

Martin Luther King Jr. was a hard-working and well-educated man, earning his Bachelor of Arts from Morehouse College, his Bachelor of Divinity from Crozer Theological Seminary, and his doctorate in Systematic Theology from Boston University.

Martin Luther King Jr. became a minister and an activist, passionate about his faith and justice. He became the most visible spokesperson and leader in the Civil Rights Movement, leading the Montgomery bus boycott in 1955. He was the first president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference where he joined and led the Albany Movement, an unsuccessful

struggle in 1961 against segregation in Albany, Georgia. In 1963, he helped organize the March on Washington, where he delivered the inspiring "I Have a Dream" speech. I

n 1964, King won the Nobel Peace Prize for combatting racial inequality through nonviolent resistance. In 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee, the day before his death, King delivered his famous "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech. The following day, King stepped out on his motel balcony to chat with some colleagues that were in the courtyard below, and a gunshot rang out, striking him. He died later on at the hospital.

Dr. King's life and achievements brought such great hope and inspiration, and in 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed a bill in declaring the 3rd Monday in January a federal holiday, and as a nation we celebrate this special day every year.

Because of Dr. King's courage and boldness to fight for what was right, many other people have been empowered to speak out and help bring justice and equality for all people.

Although Dr. King's life came to a sudden and tragic end, his legacy lives on, and we are grateful for his courage, dedication, and sacrifices for the sake of giving equal voice to all people.

Run to Attack Poverty



Join Attack Poverty on Saturday, April 4, 2020 for the 9th Annual Run to Attack Poverty 10K/5K/Kids K! The racecourse is right here in the North Richmond community, and **you're** invited!



The race will include a chip timed certified 10K, 5K Run/Walk, a Kids 1K and a toddler trot. You won't want to miss out on this year's race! Stay around after the run for a postrace party, complete with festivities including a Health & Fitness Fair, food, music, and activities for the whole family!

Interested in volunteering for the 5K? Please email [Erica Martinez](mailto:EricaMartinez) for volunteer opportunities!

Want to Register to Run to Attack Poverty? Click here to sign up: <http://bit.ly/runtoap>



Meet Veronica Sanchez



Mrs. Veronica Sanchez grew up in Fort Bend County in a farming family. She helped on the farm wherever she was needed, including gardening, helping when animals were butchered, cleaning the casings for sausage, making all breads from scratch, picking and chopping cotton, chopping sugar cane, picking pecans, and gathering eggs. She even remembers making mud cakes with real eggs.

Mrs. Sanchez is a minister at Love Ministries Church, as well as a Bible study leader, mother, and grandmother who always has a passion for singing. Mrs. Sanchez came to Friends of North Richmond after Love Ministries flooded in the May 2017 flood. When some volunteers came to demolish the flooded church, a connection was made. Soon after, Love Ministries began meeting at Friends of North Richmond for weekly services. Mrs. Veronica is a dedicated volunteer and member of our Friends of North Richmond Prayer Team. Her proudest accomplishment is going back to college in her fifties and obtaining her degree in Office Administration.

Volunteer Classifieds



Community Workdays

Want to be a part of home repair in North Richmond? We have lots of opportunities to empower the community through revitalization.

To learn more about how you can get involved, email sarahbeth@attackpoverty.org

Stay in the Loop!

To receive Reminder Texts about upcoming volunteer opportunities, **TEXT @fnrvol to 81010**

To register to volunteer, go to <https://attackpoverty.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

- **Computer Teacher** | Assist adults with basic computer skills for a 6-week class.
- **Run to Attack Poverty** | Volunteer to help with registration, parking, setup, teardown, water stations and much more! Email erica@attackpoverty.org to volunteer.
- **Prayer Team** | *Tuesdays at 1pm*
We welcome prayer warriors to come pray weekly at our Neighborhood Resource Center.
- **Spanish Teacher** | Lead or assist with a class to help adults learn Spanish.
- **English Second Language** | Lead a class to help adults learn English as a Second Language. Spanish speaking not required.
- **Jobs for Life** | Equip and train adults with skills for job readiness.
- **Second Sunday Workdays** | *2nd Sunday of every month.* Help with a home repair in the North Richmond area.
- **You Can Academy** | *Monday-Friday, 2:45-4:45pm*
Sign up to volunteer one day a week for after school tutoring (1st-5th grade). Speak Spanish? We could use your help with our Spanish speaking students!
- **GED Tutors** | *Evening or Daytime*
Assisting students one-on-one working toward their GED.
- **FNR Office Support** | Help with ongoing organizing, data entry, and art projects.
- **Nutrition Class** | Teach adults healthy meal prep, nutrition, and more.

Thank You for Reading!

**From,
The Friends of North Richmond Team**

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