



FOCUS ON FAITH IN ACTION

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2019

ISSUE 2

Sharing the impact made in the community and the faces behind the program
Serving Winchester and the counties of Frederick, Clarke, Warren and northern Shenandoah

A little background on FIA...Faith in Action was founded in 2004 with a \$35,000 grant received from the Robert Wood Johnson foundation. A community round-table the prior year exposed the need for transportation to medical appointments and treatments as a community need. The organization began small serving approximately 8 clients. Currently FIA serves 102+ per year. The organization is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit funded through grants, fundraisers and donations from churches, businesses, civic organizations and individuals. The program is managed by two, part-time workers, an Executive Director and a contracted Scheduler. All transports are provided by dedicated Valley Health credentialed volunteers.

THANK YOU to Hottel & Willis for choosing FIA as the recipient of your most recent Champions for Charity!

Faith in Action was presented with a check for \$670.90 raised by Hottel and Willis employees for local charity. Employees contribute to participate in dress down Friday. At the beginning of each quarter, a firm member, selected at random chooses a local charity to be the recipient for that quarter.

Becky Knox, Executive Assistant at Hottel and Willis presented the check to FIA Director, Traci Toth at the Cameron Street office.



To date Champions for Charity have donated \$24,729.12 to local non-profits.

THANK YOU to Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative!

Faith in Action was awarded a \$1,000 grant through SVEC's Operation Round Up program. Anthony Manzione of the selection committee presented the check to Director, Traci Toth, at the FIA office on Cameron Street.



If you are a SVEC customer and not a member of Operation Round Up, please consider signing up for this worthwhile program that helps local charities.

For more information see their website

www.svec.coop

2018:
Transports: 2,964
Clients served: 102
Miles Driven: 61,766

2019: January-October
Transports: 2,767
Clients served: 82
Miles Driven: 57,976

Meet the Executive Director...Traci Chapman Toth

In 2010 Traci became a board member of FIA serving until 2017. She has experience in the Human Services field through Frederick County Department of Social Services where she was employed for 14 years. First as a Social Work Assistant than IT/Human Resources Specialist, the position held the last eight years employed by the Department. She "retired" from FCDSS in 2013 when her daughter was born and loved spending 4 years as a full-time mommy before returning to work in September 2017 as the Director of FIA.

The part-time position is responsible for the administration side of the organization. Which includes writing grants, recruitment of clients/volunteers, public speaking to publicize the organization, maintaining day-to-day office functions, fundraising and more. She can typically be found in the FIA office weekday mornings.

The FIA signature fundraiser, Tablesapes, has become a favorite and she looks forward to it every year, narrowing down ideas for the event has become the challenge.

Traci moved to Winchester in 1995 from her hometown of Keyser, WV. She lives in Frederick County with her husband and 6-year-old daughter. She loves to travel, antique, is a collector of way too many things, is a Christmas decorating nut and Home Goods bargain hunter.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Don't miss your chance for a \$500 Exxon/Mobil gas card!

Tickets are on sale NOW through December 14. Drawing December 15.

\$5.00/each or 5 for \$20.00

You may purchase them from any Board member, at the FIA office or call (540) 536-1006

Save the Date:
Tablesapes 2020
Sunday, March 29, 2020

Follow us on Facebook

facebook.com/fiansv/



Meet the Board of Directors Chair... Karen O. Shipp

Faith in Action has been a part of my life since a group of community minded public servants set around a large table trying to determine the most critical needs of low income individuals in the immediate area. Of course there were many suggestions put forth, but the one that was mentioned the most was a lack of transportation in the area. With financial help from the Robert Woods Johnson Foundation, a steering committee was formed to work out the details for getting Faith in Action off the ground. The mission was to provide free transportation to folks who had no other means of getting to doctor appointments, cancer treatments, dialysis, and other types of medical treatments. So in 2004, Faith in Action began its services to the residents of Winchester, Front Royal, and Strasburg, and Frederick and Clarke Counties. An Executive Director was hired, and volunteer drivers were recruited and trained. So we have been of service to those needing medical transportation for the past 15 years.

My interest in serving on non-profit boards and helping those in need came from watching my parents take on these roles throughout my life. I attended Shepherd College (now University) and graduated with a desire to help others. My first job was at Winchester Social Services where I took on the role of the Adult Services Worker. At that time in 1970, the only service referrals for adults needing social services were the churches and the Salvation Army. I retired in November 2010 from paid employment but continue to enjoy seeing that those in need get a helping hand.

My husband Jim and I have been married for 51 years and have one daughter, Sherry Newman, who is a reading specialist for Clarke County Schools. She was brought up watching her parents leaving in the evenings to attend meetings of a volunteer nature. She took to heart our belief that one must do good for others. Sherry and her husband became foster parents for which there is a tremendous need in the immediate area. And from that experience, she and her husband and daughter just adopted two little boys ages 3 and 4 who have added so much joy to our lives. She, too, is an active volunteer working for the needs of our children.

Faith in Action has a very special place in my heart. I have worked for its mission and goals since it began in 2004. I am not planning on stopping any time soon. Please contact us at 540-536-1006 for more information.





Volunteers make all the difference!

Faith in Action was happy to take time recently to acknowledge those that drive the program, literally.

Faith in Action volunteers were treated to a delicious lunch sponsored and prepared by Westminster-Canterbury.

This group of *dedicated* individuals have completed 2,767 transports January through October 2019. A total of 57,976 miles. More than twice the circumference of Earth.

Know someone who wants to volunteer?

Download the application at www.faithinaction-nsv.org

In Memoriam

FIA client John S. Frey 64, passed away at home, 9/9/19 FIA drivers were thanked in his obituary.

FIA client Linnea Wenzell Monroe, 67, passed away at home 10/22/19





Black Friday. Cyber Monday.

#GIVINGTUESDAY

December 3, 2019

Giving Tuesday refers to the Tuesday after U.S. Thanksgiving in the United States. It is a movement to create an international day of charitable giving at the beginning of the Christmas and holiday season.

2019 Faith in Action Board of Directors

Karen O. Shipp, Chairman Ann Lamanna, Vice Chairman
Dr. Nelson Isenhower, Treasurer Patty Taylor, interim secretary

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Barbara Morris
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