# ACT Stakeholder Briefing: Strengthening & Supporting Our Community in Uncertain Times

March 5, 2025



# How to participate

- Introduce yourself in the chat
- Add questions and comments in the chat
- Participate in polls
- Please keep your mic on mute

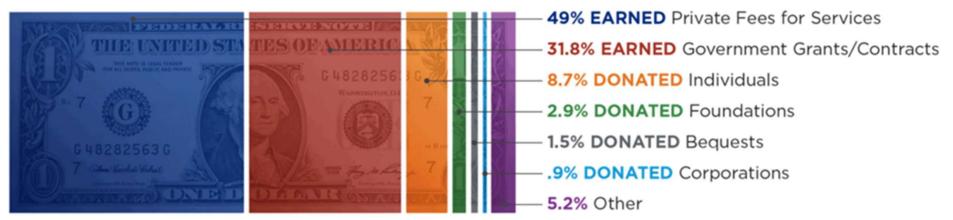


### **Agenda**

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Our Current Context
- 3. State of Alexandria's Nonprofit Sector
- 4. ACT's Response: The Community Support Initiative
- 5. How You Can Help
- 6. Q&A

# Nonprofits and the Federal Government

Our communities rely on the partnership between the federal government and nonprofit organizations to deliver essential programs and services – from hospitals, to museums, to preschool, food pantries, etc.



Source: National Council on Nonprofits

# Nonprofits are 12% of US GDP

### **Nationally:**

- 1.3M nonprofit organizations
- 12.3M people employed

Sources: Candid, Nonprofit Impact Matters, Tax Foundation

### Virginia:

- 36,210 nonprofits
- 293,480 people employed (9% of workforce)

### Alexandria:

- 3,000+ nonprofits in Alexandria
- 180 nonprofits participate in Spring2ACTion
- 11K people employed (11.6% of workforce)

### Many people directly receive federal support

### SNAP

42M people, 12% of the population

### Medicaid

79.3M people are enrolled, 21% of the population

### SNAP

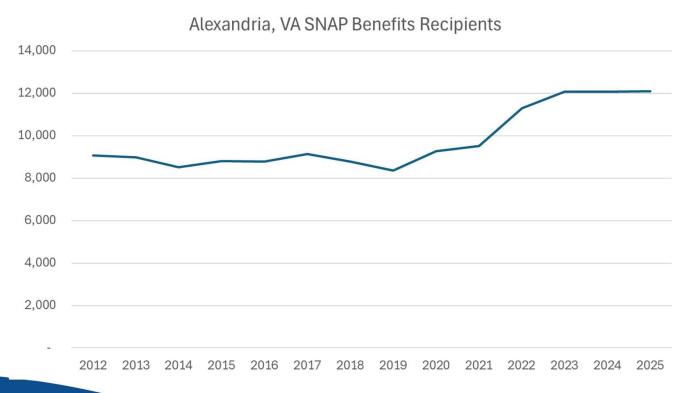
827,800 people, 9% of Virginians

### Medicaid

1.8M people, 15.4% of Virginians

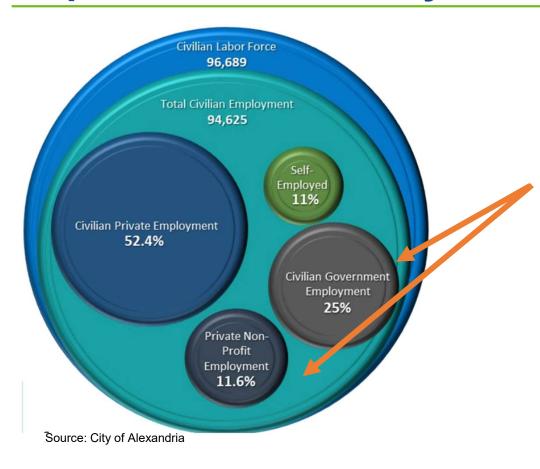
Sources: Kaiser Family Foundation, Medicaid.gov, US Dept of Agriculture

### 12K+ Alexandrians receive SNAP benefits



Source: City of Alexandria

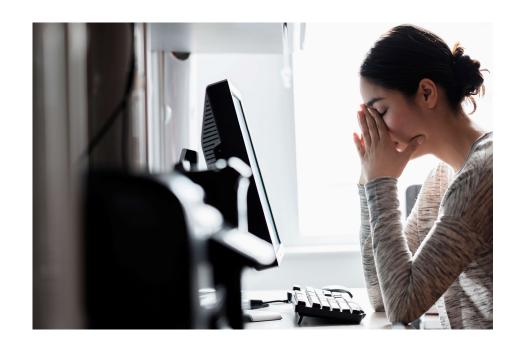
# Changes in federal & nonprofit workforce will impact our community



Federal and nonprofit workers make up more than 1/3 of Alexandria's civilian workforce

### Many federal workers already struggle with the high cost of living

- 20% of federal workers earn less than \$60,000 annually
- The "survival budget" for family of 4 in Alexandria is \$120,000 annually
- RIFs and furloughs will place strain on our social safety net



### Immigrants are an important segment of our community

51% Children have a parent born outside of the US

\$102.2M Paid in state & local taxes by immigrant households

30% Alexandrians speak a language other than English at home

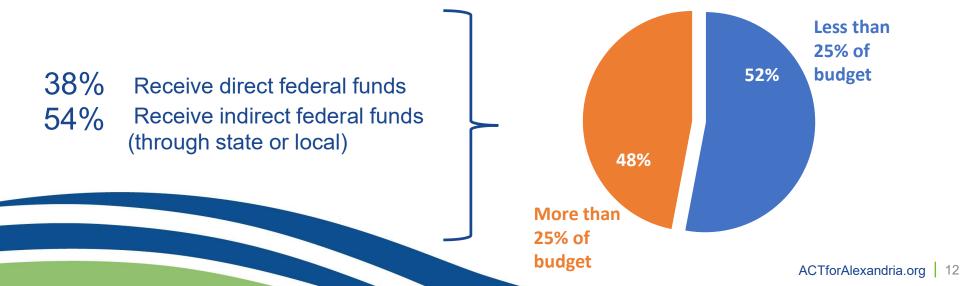
30% of Alexandria's workforce

### Concerns We're Hearing from Nonprofits

- Fears in the immigrant community around targeting and deportation
- Federal Government impacts
  - Elimination of federal government positions and hiring freeze
  - Elimination of federal departments and programs Dept. of Education
  - Possible government shutdown in March
- Government Benefits
  - Reduction in benefits like SNAP and Medicaid
  - Individuals discontinuing enrollment in benefits
- Housing affordability rental assistance
- Change in civil liberties women's rights, LGBTQ+, disability rights
- Safety concerns for students, knowing who they can trust
- Increased racism and backlash towards racial equity and DEI initiatives
- HR9495 bill and threat to nonprofit status, proximity to DC and being targeted
- Bird flu

### State of Alexandria Nonprofits

- Nonprofit Capacity staff burnout, stress and turnover
- Fundraising challenges
- Loss of Federal government funding



### State of Alexandria Nonprofits

- Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area
- **Christ Church Lazarus Ministry**
- **Additional Concerns** 
  - Staff well-being
  - Legal support
  - Communications

### **Our Priorities**

Our response builds off our commitment to amplify the work of the community by bringing people and resources together.

- Supporting the economic well-being of all Alexandrians, especially those struggling to afford the basic necessities
- Supporting the capacity and effectiveness of Alexandria's nonprofit community, especially those responding to the humanitarian and social service needs of Alexandrians

### **Community Support Initiative**

- Convening
  - Peer Support Network for CEOs & **Executive Directors**
  - Stakeholder Briefing
- Grantmaking through The Community Fund
- **Coordinating Communication** 
  - Connected Alexandria
- Advocacy



# Give directly to your favorite nonprofit

- Reach out, ask what they need
- Practice trust-based giving:
  - Give unrestricted support
  - Make a multi-year commitment
  - Reduce reporting requirements
- Volunteer your time



# Participate in Spring2ACTion

- Wednesday, April 9
- Provide matching grants
- Mobilize friends and neighbors
- Share via social media
- Attend the Kick-Off Event on Wednesday, April 2



# You can help!

Give to ACT's Community Support Initiative or the **Alexandria Community** Support Fund

www.actforalexandria.org



# Thank you!

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions!

Heather Peeler, President & CEO Heather.Peeler@actforalexandria.org

Tricia Ritchie, Chief Development Officer Tricia.Ritchie@actforalexandria.org

Brandi Yee, Chief Program Officer Brandi.Yee@actforalexandria.org

