

State Victories

Largest Assembly of the Election Season with BOTH Gubernatorial Candidates – three times larger than second-largest assembly. There were 1,565 VOICE leaders from 58 congregations and schools. VOICE got commitments from the candidates to work with us on our top issues, including increasing the VA Felony Level and Reducing Hate Crimes.

Strong Base within VA Muslim Communities at some of the largest Mosques in the US – including training over 200 Muslim leaders AND voter turnout efforts.

Engaged thousands in Real Democracy. Trained 500+ leaders over the last year to engage in public life on issues important to them and talked face-to-face with 6,000 Northern Virginians over the past 15 months to hear about their biggest challenges.

Highly Successful GOTV Effort:

1. **One of the largest GOTV efforts in the state.** There were 375 VOICE volunteer leaders who went door-to-door.
2. **Increased voter turnout percentage between 24% and 39%** in six precincts and between 9.5% and 11% in two others. VOICE worked in total in 8 low-voting precincts in Prince William and Fairfax Counties. Prince William is a bellwether county in state & national politics. Fairfax has the most voters of any county in VA.
3. **Remarkable results with Infrequent Voters.** Many VOICE leaders got 15-25 yes commitments in a 2-hour period, instead of the more common 6-10 in a 2-hour period that other groups report.

Local Victories

Public Schools:

Honor Muslim & Jewish Holidays in Prince William & Fairfax Counties. Won a commitment from the County school systems to respect student needs around Jewish and Muslim holidays.

Support for Arlington immigrant students. VOICE leaders persuaded the Arlington school superintendent to appoint a working group pairing APS top staff with community members to figure out how to increase support for immigrant students amidst the uncertainty and fear generated by developments nationally.

Denounce Hate Acts:

Brought together **Republican & Democratic elected leaders with clergy in Prince William County** to denounce hate crimes and demand justice after vandals spray-painted swastikas on signs outside a school whose owner is Muslim.

Gov.-elect Northam committed to meet with VOICE before 1/13 to discuss state strategy.

Police will NOT Act as ICE Agents. Both PWCO and Fairfax County Police Chiefs met with hundreds of VOICE leaders and committed they will not act as agents of ICE.

Affordable Housing:

VOICE Arlington played a significant role in winning \$5.2 million for affordable housing development and preservation in a tight budget year.

In Alexandria:

1. **Won \$4 million** from city officials towards a 113-unit affordable housing development at VOICE member, Church of the Resurrection.
2. Secured commitments from city officials to:
 - A. **Protect Resolution 8:30** to ensure for every affordable unit torn down, another one has to be built.
 - B. **Ensure all 90 units of Adkins public housing** are replaced on-site.
 - C. **Create “swing space”** to be sure those residents can stay in Old Towne.
 - D. Allocate at least **\$8 million per year** for affordable housing starting in FY2019.