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Fact Sheet

What is Rebuilding Together Alexandria (formerly Christmas in April)? It is the leading volunteer organization that, in partnership with the community, rehabilitates the houses of low-income homeowners, particularly the elderly and disabled, so that they may continue to live in warmth, safety and independence. After months of planning and preparation, Rebuilding Together Alexandria (RTA) culminates in a National Rebuilding Day—usually the last Saturday in April. Volunteers from all ages, faiths and walks of life come together to help their neighbors.

What is the local impact of Rebuilding Together Alexandria?

Rebuilding Together Alexandria was founded in 1986. At the first RTA work day, 150 volunteers repaired 8 homes and 2 shelters. Today, nearly 1,000 volunteers worked on 50-80 homes and nonprofit organizations. Over the years, thousands of volunteers have made life better for over 700 Alexandria residents.

Why is the Rebuilding Together Alexandria service needed? Today, there are more than 5 ½ million elderly homeowners in America. Almost half of them spend more than 40% of their income on housing expenditures. 22% of all Americans are shelter poor, meaning they cannot afford basic minimum necessities after paying housing costs: they have a home but can not afford to maintain it. With volunteers eager to help, RTA fills a desperate need by revitalizing neighborhoods as well as giving a sense of pride back to the homeowners.

Who sponsors Rebuilding Together Alexandria? Funding and volunteer teams come from corporations, individuals, civic organizations, churches and synagogues interested in helping build a better community. RTA is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization supported by voluntary contributions of time and money.

How are homeowners selected? Applicants must be low-income homeowners and unable to do the work themselves. Referrals typically come from non-profit agencies, churches/synagogues and individuals.

Do the homeowners pay? All repairs are free for the homeowners. Labor and supplies are donated. Homeowners and family members are asked to welcome volunteers into their homes and work alongside them in the spirit of neighbor helping neighbor. Our work is done *with* families and neighborhoods, not *for* them.

Is my contribution tax-deductible? Yes. Rebuilding Together Alexandria is a 501 C 3 organization and all contributions are tax-deductible.

NATIONAL REBUILDING DAY – always the LAST SATURDAY IN APRIL