



All
Ages
Read
Together



AART ANNUAL REPORT

2016-2017

MISSION

Educating children in need with free preschool programs in their communities.

VISION

We envision a future where all children, especially our most vulnerable, enter school prepared to learn and succeed. We strive for a future in which public education includes universal access to preschool, making the need for **AART** obsolete.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair

Peter Knapp

Treasurer

Mariana Ippolito

Co-founders

Karen Schaufeld and Sandra Shihadeh

Directors

Christopher D'Arcy

Tamar Datan

Penny Desper

David McComber

Bobbi Schaufeld

Cindy Schaufeld

Leigh Shields





"My daughter, Rebecca, started the AART class in October of 2017 and we're extremely pleased with the experience. My husband and I felt that the facility was safe and secure and she learned a lot from the time she spent there. She learned to share and interact with others freely. She can tell you a story just from looking at pictures. Miss Natalia and Miss Catalina and some of the directors that we have come in contact with are kind and patient people. They definitely have a strong background and the ability to connect with children. I will definitely recommend AART for families with preschool youngsters! Thank you for getting Rebecca ready for kindergarten in August!"

- Parent, AART Alexandria class



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10 YEARS



The Blink of an Eye

Ten years ago, All Ages Read Together began with an idea that the foundation to a life of success was to nurture the love of learning at an early age. From a small community room in an assisted living community with eight children and four seniors, AART has helped instill a love of learning in the hearts and minds of thousands of children. Much like that first small class that is now in high school, AART too has grown up. We now have 12 classes. Our graduating class, averaging 175 students per year, carry their quality curriculum experience with them into kindergarten. And we have been helped by hundreds of caring and committed volunteers through the years.

But, we aren't done growing up. Looking forward, we know there is still need. With your help, we aim to make sure all children receive a quality preschool experience, regardless of their income. Our community depends on each individual receiving the support they need to succeed. We intend to go beyond Loudoun and Fairfax counties to support our children. We hope that others use our model where appropriate and we commit to helping those organizations by sharing what we have learned. And, ultimately, we feel confident that in Virginia, the newly elected administration now sees universal Pre-K as a necessary step to helping all our children achieve their full potential.

From the bottom of our hearts, Sandy, my sister and co-founder, and I, along with the whole AART team of staff and volunteers, thank you for your invaluable support.

Thank you for taking this important journey and growing up with us.

Sincerely,

Karen Schaufeld, AART Co-Founder

AND COUNTING



My first year as Executive Director at All Ages Read Together (AART) has gone by quickly. After a year of observation and time spent with our students, teachers, board members, colleagues, and supporters, I know I am part of a ten year legacy of excellence with a bright future that begins with you. Our donors and supporters can help AART reach the 20% of children in Northern Virginia who begin kindergarten without any preschool experience. Thanks to the hard work of AART's founders, we are positioned to make an enormous impact on the children we serve as well as the communities around us.

Looking ahead, we will continue to hone the program with a critical eye towards the assessments we use to evaluate our students' progress. In addition, we'll continue to improve AART's curriculum to make sure we are giving our students the tools to succeed in

kindergarten and beyond. We recognize, however, that new resources are required for continued growth and future effectiveness.

For 10 years, interacting with the children has been the most grounding and inspirational experience for the staff, board and me. One of the experiences that resonates with me is one I had with a child as I visited a program prior to my hire. A boy was drawing a life-size image of himself and was struggling with severe allergies that sent him to the tissue box myriad times. He drew a tear in the eye of his image and asked if he could attach a tissue to the hand. Turns out, his family could not afford the allergy testing necessary to help him and he truly struggled to make it through a class. He told me, "If I am drawing picture of me, I need to add the tear and tissue because that is how I feel today and most of the time." These are experiences most of us take for granted because we have the means to care for the symptoms immediately. It is just one example of the complexity of the lives of our AART families.

Now, more than ever, we need to strive to serve more of those who are marginalized: politically, socially, and economically. We need to dig deep and challenge ourselves during challenging times. Partnering with donors like you will be the key to our continued growth and ability to serve more students in need!

Thank you for your partnership through the years and now!

With gratitude,

Michelle Sullivan, Executive Director

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

AART's quality program distinguishes itself in the following ways:

- ❖ We serve overlooked and underserved children in their communities.
- ❖ We canvas communities for families rather than expecting they will find us.
- ❖ We connect volunteers of all ages with our four and five year old students to promote intergenerational engagement.
- ❖ We hand out a new book weekly to all students which encourages a love of reading and learning.



"A critical part of our program's success is the use of volunteers to support teaching staff in the classroom. This allows adult/child ratios to be lower and increases opportunities to practice language and social skills, as well as reading one on one and support with class projects and games."

*-Julie Brunson,
Program Director*



THE HISTORY OF ALL AGES READ TOGETHER

❖ 2007

Karen Schaufeld made a planning grant to the Loudoun Literacy Council to create a preschool program for disadvantaged children. The pilot program was developed and launched at Sunrise Senior Living in Leesburg, VA, by her sister Sandra Shihadeh, a preschool educator with 15 years of classroom experience, who shared Karen's passion for uniting generations in celebration of books and a love of learning.

❖ 2008

AART expanded to three classes in Leesburg, serving 26 children with the help of 12 adult volunteers and one paid staff member.

❖ 2009

Barbara Schaufeld and Tamar Datan joined Karen and Sandy as incorporators of AART in the Commonwealth of Virginia on October 14. The four incorporators adopted Bylaws on November 17, and submitted a 501(c)(3) application to the IRS the next day. Meanwhile, AART extended its reach into Fairfax County and served a total of 37 children with the help of 20 volunteers.

❖ 2010

AART received 501(c)(3) designation from the IRS on January 9, 2010. To this day, we are still dealing with the fact that the IRS inadvertently stamped the determination letter 2009 - someone forgot to switch their stamp to the New Year! Later that year we threw a "Horseshoe Hoedown" - our first signature fundraising event- in the fall, while serving 34 more children thanks to 20 volunteers.

❖ 2011

In addition to offering our school year program - 30 weeks of instruction with a free book each week - we began offering a summer program

School year classes

AART is dedicated to serving at-risk preschool age children. Gifted teachers and volunteers of all ages provide individualized school readiness programs to prepare children for success in kindergarten and beyond.

AART provides free programs to vulnerable learners in Loudoun and Fairfax counties. Classes meet twice a week for 30 weeks from September to June. Our locations are convenient to the neighborhoods where these children live: in community rooms, senior centers, churches, and libraries. Classes combine instruction in letters, numbers, colors, and shapes with



other basic kindergarten readiness lessons. Children keep the books they receive during the program to build their own home libraries.

Summer classes

The **AART** summer program is an intensive five-week school readiness program, serving rising kindergarteners with little or no preschool experience. Similar in format to the school year programs, these programs meet in schools. They are much shorter, meeting three times per week in the summer. In addition to school readiness skills, students and parents are able to acclimate to the local elementary school.

to provide last chance school readiness instruction to rising kindergarteners with no formal preschool preparation.

We also launched the “Tee Off for Literacy” Golf Tournament – our second signature fundraising/awareness building event. That year, AART served 54 students with the help of 24 volunteers.

❖ 2012

We expanded our Board of Directors to 12 members, and AART’s impact jumped to 72 more children and 25 volunteers. Plus, we opened summer classes in both Loudoun and Fairfax.

❖ 2013

AART expanded to five classes in Loudoun and four classes in Fairfax, reaching another 85 children thanks to a growing cadre of 37 volunteers.

❖ 2014

We established a new partnership with Loudoun Literacy Council to provide English classes for parents of children enrolled in AART, while growing to six classes in Loudoun, four classes in Fairfax, one in Arlington, and four summer classes in Loudoun. We reached a total of 116 children thanks to 37 volunteers.

❖ 2015

So far at this point, we have put a grand running total of 3,200 books into the hands of our students. And here’s where we began the process of transforming the Board from founding to governing style, inviting new leadership to step up and take the helm.

❖ 2016

We hired our first Executive Director! We also opened two new classes in Alexandria, and served a total of 167 students with 71 engaged volunteers providing 9,900 hours of service.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

It starts with a book

AART looks at Kindergarten Readiness Indicators and the individual strengths of the children in the class. Each week a book is featured. Hands-on activities are planned around the theme of the book. On the second day of class, the children take the book home for their personal library. In addition to the teacher and assistant staff, volunteers from the community play a supportive role by reading one on one, helping with art projects and activities, and building relationships. Low adult/child ratios allow for high touch interaction which improves language and social skills, important indicators of success in school.

During each class, children are given multiple opportunities to read and write and to participate in exploratory hands-on science and math activities. Many activities, such as the Calendar Activity and Morning Message, are purposeful everyday routines that provide structure for many varied concepts to be introduced and reinforced across the curriculum – authentically integrating science, math, reading, and writing into each and every session. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) are embedded into the curriculum, providing opportunities for developmentally appropriate exploratory learning. Art projects, games, music and movement encourage fine and gross motor skills in a creative, fun manner, making the first experience in a classroom setting positive and engaging.



“Genesis’ mother told me today that her daughter started the program speaking not a word of English and now she converses fluently and comfortably in English in and outside of the classroom. As her teachers, we also notice Genesis is growing by leaps and bounds; she is a confident and enthusiastic learner. We believe she will be very successful in kindergarten next year.”

*-Bethea, AART Teacher
in Loudoun County*

**Each
Year**



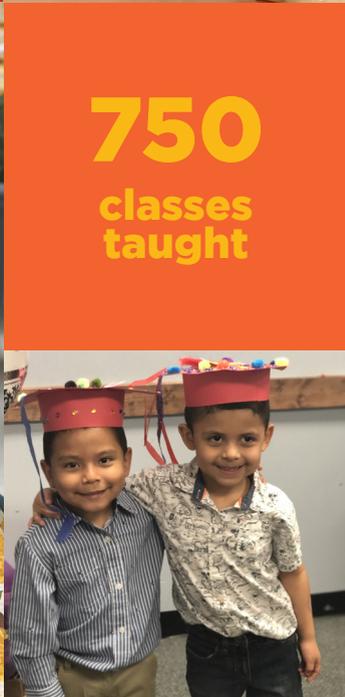
6,000
hours of
volunteer
time donated



4,440
books put
into the
hands of our
students



750
classes
taught



A typical day in an AART classroom

Intro Activity (15-20 minutes)

As children arrive, they choose puzzles, books, or educational games that focus on matching, memory, sorting, building, and other cognitive and fine motor skills.

Circle Time (20-30 minutes)

Circle time starts with a welcome song and then moves to practicing name recognition. The book of the week is introduced and letters, numbers, shapes, and colors are incorporated in songs, games and activities that engage students.

Music and Movement (10 minutes)

Activities include acting out the book of the week, dancing, Simon Says, hula hoop and parachute games, and obstacle courses. All games challenge and develop spatial awareness, gross motor, attention to detail, and ability to follow directions.

Table Time (15-20 minutes)

Art or science activity that complements the book theme through coloring, painting, tracing, cutting, gluing, constructing, and experimenting to engage imagination, creative thinking, reasoning, and sensory skills.

Closing Activity (10 minutes)

Usually a game like Zingo, Alphabet/Color/Shape/Number Bingo, Memory Match, or an activity like free drawing or playdough.

Transitions

If a child completes an activity before the rest of the class, they are instructed to go to our library and read silently until we move on.

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- ❖ Attend **AART's** annual signature fundraising events-Tee Off for Children's Literacy Golf Tournament and **AART** Horseshoe Hoedown.
- ❖ Volunteer your talents-photography, marketing, fundraising, social media development.
- ❖ Consider a first-time financial gift or increase your current giving level.
- ❖ Volunteer in one of our classes! If you love working with young children, join us!
- ❖ Send us a note about how your involvement with **AART** has touched your life.



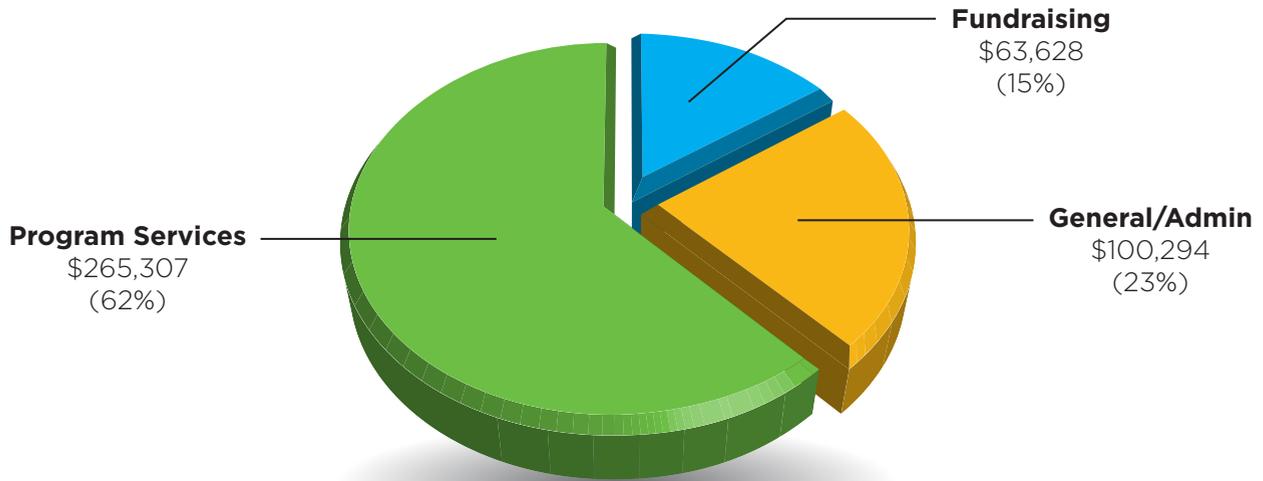
"We have a young four year old who was gripping her pencil in a tight fist when she wrote. As this was causing her much difficulty when writing her name, I showed her the proper grip, and suggested she rest her wrist on the table as she wrote. I also discussed and demonstrated the proper hand position to her mom at pick-up time. The next school day, the child called me over to tell me, 'Look! I'm resting! I'm resting!' After a moment of confusion, I realized she wanted to show me how she was placing her wrist on the table as she wrote! She had practiced at home with her mom and was so proud of her accomplishment."

-Carol, Volunteer in Loudoun County

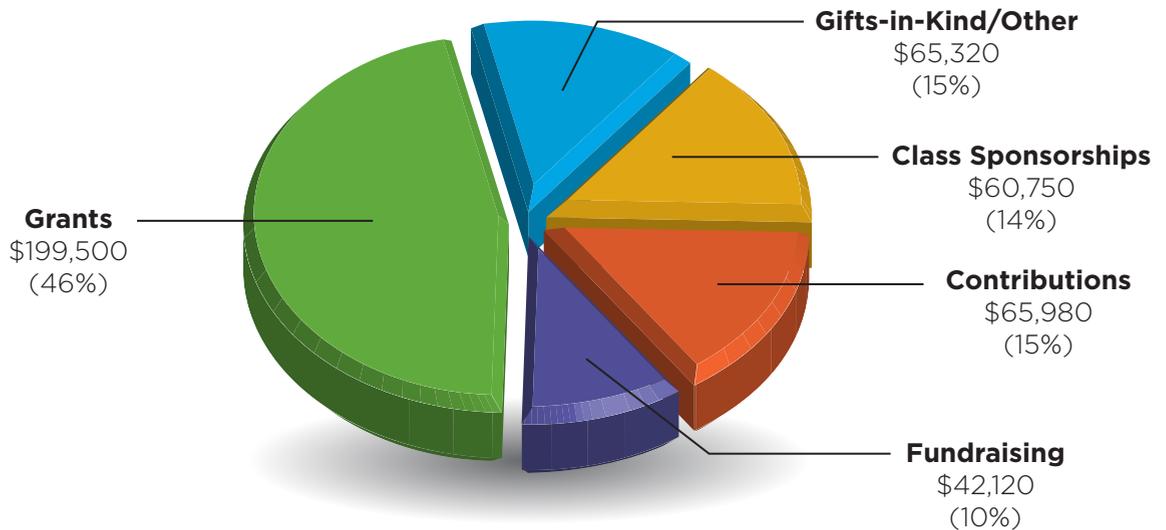
FINANCIALS

EXPENSES AND REVENUE FY2017 (SEPTEMBER 1, 2016-AUGUST 31, 2017)

FY2017 Expenses



FY2017 Revenue and Support



AART DONORS

Recognized below are the donations received during the fiscal year 2017 (September 1, 2016-August 31, 2017). Every effort has been made to list donors accurately. Your donations enable us to make a difference in the lives and future prospects of our students. Thank you for your generous support.

CLASS SPONSORS

- Bobbi Schaufeld
- Fred and Karen Schaufeld Family Foundation
- Lynn and Gerald Rubin
- Peter Knapp Realty Group

CORPORATE DONORS

- Greenberg Traurig
- Howard Hughes Medical Institute - Janelia Campus
- Sevila, Saunders, Huddleston & White, P.C.
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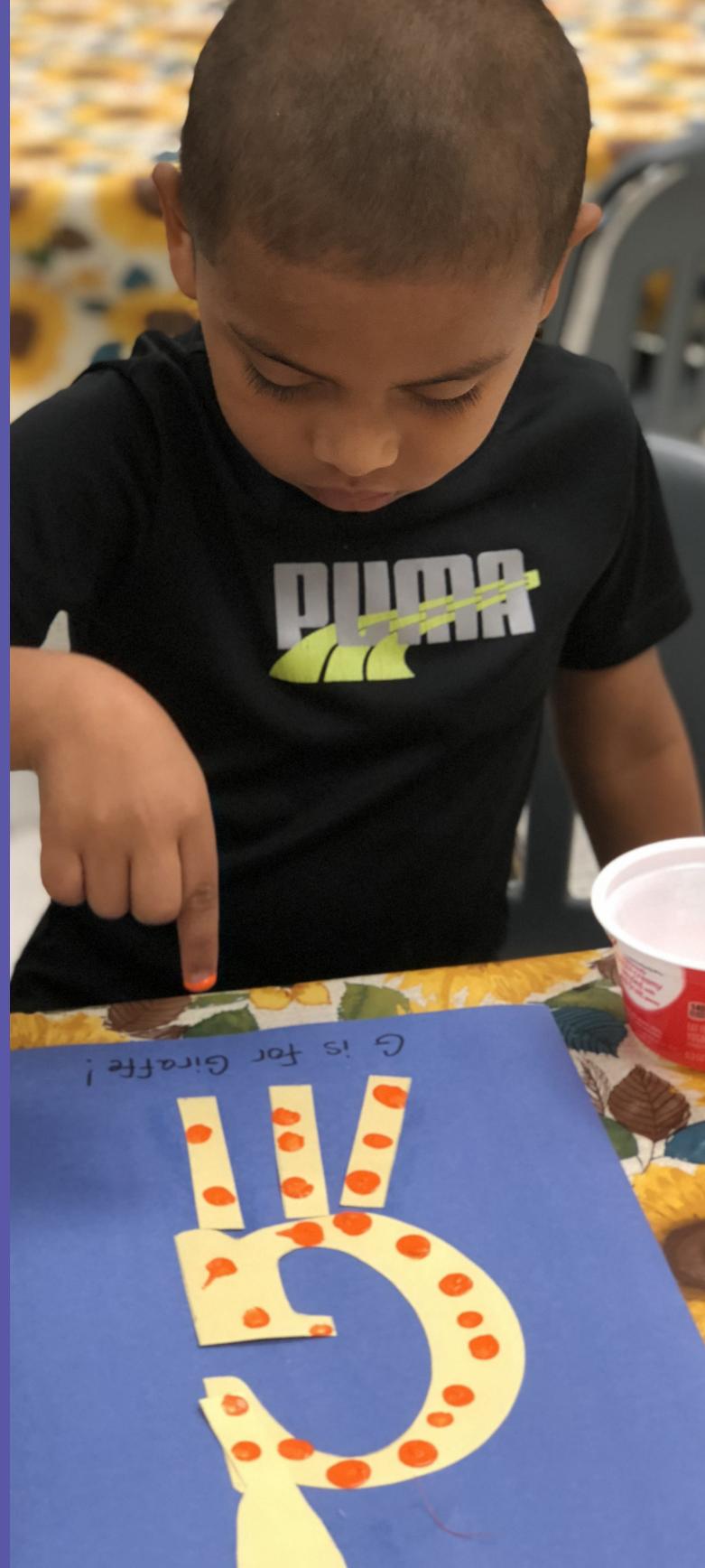
GRANTS AND FOUNDATIONS

- 100WomenStrong
- Allegra Print Services - Footprint Fund
- Allstate Foundation
- Anthony and Annette Nader Foundation
- Cliff and Deborah White Family Foundation
- Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties - Loudoun Impact Fund
- Community Foundation for Northern Virginia - Education Fund
- County of Loudoun
- Fred and Karen Schaufeld Family Foundation
- Leesburg Daybreak Rotary Club
- LWH Family Foundation
- Maximus Foundation
- Nelson and Katherine Friant Post Foundation
- Sharon Virts Foundation



EVENT SPONSORS \$500+

- 100 Women Strong
- Access National Bank
- Aesthetica Cosmetic Surgery & Laser Center
- Blackburn Architects
- Blake Landscaping
- Bobbi Schaufeld
- Brian Agee - Century 21 Redwood Realty
- Capretti Land
- Cindy and Richard Schaufeld
- Covenant Real Estate Management
- David and Stacy McOmer
- Details Home Services
- Double Eagle Title
- Elizabeth Owen
- Fabbioni Cellars
- First Home Mortgage
- Frederick and Karen Schaufeld
- Grace Shihadeh
- Judith Garlick
- Keith Florczyk - State Farm Insurance
- Kroll Discovery
- Langhorne Custom Homes
- Linda Henrickson
- Lynn and Gerald Rubin
- Michelle Sullivan
- Odin, Feldman, Pittleman PC
- Pactolus Private Wealth Management
- Peter Knapp Realty Group
- Radiance Salon & Medi-Spa
- Rebekah Kelley, Virtue Skinfood
- Reston Limousine
- Rotary Club of Leesburg
- SWaN & Legend Venture Partners
- Telos
- Total Wine & More



INDIVIDUAL DONORS \$500+

- Thomas Adair and Michelle Johnson-Adair
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- Judith Garlick
- Marc and Leana Katz
- Barbara and William Kilberg
- Phlyssa Koshland
- Deborah and Wallace Owings
- Catie and Joe Romano
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- Frederick and Karen Schaufeld
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- Grace Shihadeh
- Jacquelin Shihadeh
- William and Judith Singleton
- J. Wendy Thompson-Marquez
- Wesley and Cynthia Trochlil
- Craig and Patty White

IN-KIND DONORS \$500+

- Allan Wong
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- Cory Laws, Details Home Services
- It Takes a Village, Baby!
- JK Moving Services
- Karen and Fred Schaufeld
- Konica Minolta
- Linda Hendrickson
- Lisa Freidhof
- Michelle Sullivan
- Pi Beta Phi Foundation
- Reston Limousine
- St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School



PARTNERS

- Cascades Library
- Fairfax County Public Schools
- The Fields
- HealthWorks for Northern Virginia
- Herndon Neighborhood Resource Center
- Herndon Senior Center
- Leesburg Elementary School
- Loudoun Cares
- Loudoun County Public Schools
- Loudoun Literacy Council
- St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
- Sterling Elementary School
- United Community Ministries-Sacramento Center
- Wesley Housing Development-Coppermine Place II, Lincolnia Community Center



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