Marc, an Amazon customer, recently shared this note with us: “I have returned to the countryside and we have no running water, but Amazon brings you everything in 48 hours: special food for my dog, technological gadgets, books and other things impossible to obtain at short distance. Amazon arrives where not even water arrives... and that, as a customer, is unbeatable.”

We receive emails like this frequently—and it makes me proud to be part of a company that’s delivering on its mission to make customers’ lives better and easier every day. I am particularly appreciative of all the work our teams did during the COVID-19 pandemic—safely getting people around the world the things they needed while stuck at home, migrating companies to the cloud so that businesses could continue while people worked remotely, and using the computing power of AWS to help find potential cures for the virus.

What many people might not know is that our community support goes well beyond our core businesses. That’s what this report is about.

Earlier this year, we built two warehouses in Poland and Slovakia in just 10 days to provide Ukrainian refugees with essential products. We also sent rugged computer storage devices known as “Snowballs” to Ukraine. These devices will store, secure and transfer over 10 million gigabytes as part of our effort to help preserve the country’s critical data.

We’re also increasing affordable housing so more people can live in communities where housing prices are soaring. We’re doing this through the Amazon Housing Equity Fund, our $2 billion commitment to create and preserve 20,000 affordable homes.

And, we’re helping to increase access to education through programs like Amazon Future Engineer, our childhood-to-career program that engages children and young adults from underrepresented communities in computer science education. This particular part of our work is personal for me, because I’ve long volunteered with Rainier Scholars in Seattle—an organization that supports underrepresented students of color by providing them a pathway to college and meaningful careers.

In this report, we share a bit more about how we’re using our collaborative and innovative approach to create positive change in support of our communities. We know that, as we continue to grow, so does our responsibility to the places we call home, and we’re grateful for the support, ingenuity, and dedication of our team and our partners. We’re committed to building a better future—together.

At a glance
Amazon’s philanthropic commitments in the Capital Region

- **$32 million** donated to 150+ local organizations in 2021.
- **$990 million+** committed to create and preserve 9,245 affordable housing units.
- **75,000+** students across 343 schools received computer science education through the Amazon Future Engineer program.
- **13,700** people supported by Amazon-funded affordable housing investments.
- **166,000+** students participated in the CodeVA program (powered by Amazon Future Engineer) during the 2021-22 academic year.
- **10,000** meals purchased from local restaurants and donated to support COVID-19 first responders.
- **5.3 million+** free meals delivered to underserved families in partnership with Arlington region foodbanks.
- **23,000+** students received food, clothing, school supplies, hygiene items, and other urgent support through Amazon’s Right Now Needs Fund.
- **166,000+** students explored cloud computing solutions at the Wakefield High School AWS Think Big Space in Arlington during the 2021-22 academic year.
- **16,700+** students served by Amazon’s support of local youth sports leagues.
Partnership to keep Carver Terrace affordable

The Carver Terrace apartments in the swiftly gentrifying H Street Corridor of northeast Washington, D.C., were nearing the end of their legal requirement to remain affordable. The Amazon Housing Equity Fund partnered with Jair Lynch Real Estate Partners, a minority-led developer, to preserve the 320 units for renters earning no more than 60% of the area median income. The modernized three-story property provides one- to three-bedroom apartments and includes a fitness center among its amenities.

Future secured for Crystal House

Amazon’s first affordable housing initiative in the Capital Region was the Crystal House apartment community. The Amazon Housing Equity Fund provided the Washington Housing Conservancy with $340 million in below-market loans to acquire Crystal House and to help stabilize and lower rents for 619 housing units. In addition, Amazon donated $40 million worth of adjacent land to Arlington County for the creation of more affordable homes.

Creating affordable housing across the Capital Region

We believe that people should have access to housing they can afford, but many areas—including the Capital Region—are facing an affordable housing shortage, and low-income and minority families are disproportionately affected. That’s why we created the Amazon Housing Equity Fund, committing $2 billion to innovative projects that create and preserve affordable housing in the communities we call home.

$990 million+ committed to create and preserve 6,245 affordable housing units in the Capital Region.

22% increase in affordable housing stock in Arlington in 12 months.

Accelerator program for minority-led real estate developers

Relieving the housing crisis starts with removing barriers. To address this, the Amazon Housing Equity Fund launched a $21 million, two-year professional development program to help real estate developers of color progress in an industry with high barriers to entry. The program—built in partnership with local nonprofits to address issues specific to their communities—helps these developers kick-start their projects. To date, minority-led developers are responsible for 65% of our Housing Equity Fund projects in the Capital Region.
Two new spaces for the community to learn cloud computing skills

The AWS Skills Center in Arlington is a free training center for anyone in the local community who is curious about cloud computing and future job possibilities in the cloud.

The AWS Think Big Space is a unique collaboration between Amazon and Arlington Public Schools to provide a dedicated space for students, educators, and communities to explore cloud computing.

These innovative and integrated environments support hands-on education and prioritize personalized learning to engage students of all ages, interests, and abilities. This interactive technical education, along with career networking and job placement events, supports the local community in gaining future employment—all for free.

Inspiring local students through tech education

We believe in the transformative power of education, and we are investing in programs to help children, higher education students, and adults unlock their potential. Amazon Future Engineer, our global childhood-to-career computer science program, inspires and educates thousands of students from underserved and underrepresented communities in the Capital Region each year. Another program, AWS re/Start, helps unemployed or underemployed individuals build essential skills for careers in the cloud and connects them to potential employers. And our Right Now Needs Fund helps ensure that students in Alexandria and Arlington public schools have their basic needs met—including food, clothing, and school supplies—through vouchers and other assistance.

$2 million committed through the Right Now Needs Fund to support basic needs for 8,500 students.

75,000+ students across 343 schools received computer science education through the Amazon Future Engineer program.

$3.9 million donated to CodeVA to expand computer science education for 500,000 students and 10,000 teachers.

9,000+ students have access to AWS Think Big Spaces at Wakefield High School, J. Lupton Simpson Middle School, and River Oaks Elementary School each academic year.

“Many families were facing hardship during the pandemic, and the Amazon vouchers are a wonderful way to provide direct support to students so that they can purchase food, clothing, school supplies, and other essentials.”

Dr. Francisco Durán
Superintendent of Arlington Public Schools

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Helping build strong communities

Amazon supports responsible, sustainable, and positive growth in the communities we call home. Across the Capital Region, we partner with civic leaders, community organizations, and other companies to address urgent needs and improve the quality of life for residents in the community today and for future generations.

$32 million
donated to 150+ Capital Region organizations in 2021.

5.3 million+
free meals delivered to underserved families in partnership with Arlington region foodbanks.

16,700+
students served by Amazon’s support of local youth sports leagues.

$1 million+
donated to beloved community events, including the National Cherry Blossom Festival, Capital Pride, the Arlington Turkey Trot, and the Alexandria Holiday Boat Parade of Lights.

Support for Families in Crisis

At the height of the pandemic, Amazon donated $300,000 to Doorways, an Arlington-based nonprofit that addresses the cycles of abuse, homelessness, and poverty. The donation helped the organization expand its shelter and community-based services as it was pushed beyond its capacity. In addition, Amazon matched employee donations to Doorways, totaling $85,000. With Amazon’s support, Doorways expanded housing for clients and increased access to crisis, legal, and medical counseling. Amazon fully supports the Doorways mission to ensure that families at risk find safe haven and hope.

Bread for the City Partnership

As the COVID-19 pandemic took hold in 2020, volunteers and staff at Bread for the City were only able to deliver groceries to around 1,500 households per month. Their capacity increased to nearly 7,000 grocery deliveries per month in May 2020 after a transformational partnership with Amazon. The company donated delivery services to help get food to the community and provided $350,000 to assist with hunger relief programs supporting children and families.

“Parents and vulnerable community members should not have to negotiate their budgets, safety, and time against traveling on public transportation to our centers to put a meal on their table. Delivering those groceries instead offers Bread for the City the opportunity to serve and meet the real needs of our neighbors. We are able to be there for our community because Amazon was there for us.”

George Jones
CEO of Bread for the City, Washington, D.C.
Partnering with 150+ local organizations

Providing access to nature. Increasing equity in education. Delivering resources to families in need. The Capital Region has an incredible network of nonprofits that we are proud to support. Here are some of the organizations we support, and the list continues to grow.

- Alliance to End Hunger
- American Childhood Cancer Organization
- American Forests
- American Foundation for the Blind
- American University Washington College of Law
- Anaestia Coordinating Council
- Animal Welfare League of Alexandria
- Arlington Artists Alliance
- Arlington Community Foundation
- Arlington Food Assistance Center
- Arlington Free Clinic
- Arlington Little League
- Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing
- Arlington Public Schools
- Arlington Sports
- Asian Americans Advancing Justice
- Association of Writers and Writing Programs
- Atlas Service Corps
- Boolean Girl
- Boy Scouts of America National Capital Area Council
- Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington
- Bread for the City
- Bridges to Independence
- Building Bridges Across the River
- Campagna Center
- Capital Area Food Bank
- Capital Caring
- Capital Pride Alliance
- Central Union Mission
- Children’s National Medical Center
- Children's Science Center
- Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization
- Communities in Schools of Northern Virginia
- D.C. Central Kitchen
- D.C. Public Education Fund
- D.C. Road Runners Club
- D.C. Scores
- Doorsways
- DowntownDC Foundation
- East River Family Strengthening Collaborative
- Embracing Arlington Arts
- Equal Justice Works
- Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative
- Fisher House Foundation
- Florence Crittenton Services of Greater Washington
- Fly Minsi Youth Development Club
- Food for Others
- Food on the Stove
- Friends of Guest House
- Goodwill Industries International
- Housing Association of Nonprofit Developers
- Howard University
- Humane Rescue Alliance
- Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team
- Hurston/Wright Foundation
- Inner Loop
- International Association of Fire Fighters
- John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
- Jubilee Housing
- K-9 Caring Angels
- La Cocina VA
- Leadership Center for Excellence
- LGBTQ Victory Institute
- March of Dimes
- March on Washington Film Festival
- Marine Toys for Tots Foundation
- Martha’s Table
- Mary House
- Military Spouse JD Foundation
- Military Women’s Memorial
- Minority Veterans of America
- Mobile Hope Association
- National Building Museum
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
- National Cherry Blossom Festival
- National Park Foundation
- PBS Foundation
- Pentagon Memorial Fund
- Phoenix Bikes
- Potomac Riverkeeper Network
- Purple Campaign
- Reach Education
- Reading is Fundamental
- Rebuilding Together DC Alexandria
- Scholarship Fund of Alexandria
- Shout Mouse Press
- Signature Theatre
- Silver Spring Science Center
- Sourceamerica
- Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future
- Synetic Theater
- The Memorial Foundation
- The Nature Conservancy

**English Empowerment Center**

We support the English Empowerment Center in its mission to teach adults the basic skills of reading, writing, speaking, and understanding English so they can access employment and more fully participate in the community. Our funding helped the center pivot to virtual learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, and we continue to support this work in the new hybrid world.

**Arlington Soccer Association**

Arlington Soccer promotes the sport to hundreds of underserved elementary and middle school students at no cost. We support this initiative by supplying shirts and other equipment to all teams in the league.

**Signature Theatre**

The Arlington-based Signature Theatre enriches the region’s cultural landscape with bold productions of new and established works, and engaging education and outreach programs. Amazon’s support helps Signature bring its award-winning performances to life.

**National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)**

The Amazon scholarship, in partnership with the NAACP, is awarded to Arlington students who need financial support to complete their education. The $10,000 grant is renewable each year based on academic performance.

**Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC)**

The Bowie Business Innovation Center is a business accelerator and collaborative workspace for technology companies and government contractors in Prince George’s County. Headquartered at Bowie State University, Bowie BIC is the only business accelerator in Maryland located on the campus of a historically black college or university. Amazon provides funding for the Bowie BIC’s INNOVATEBowie annual event.

**Signature Theatre**

We are working in partnership with EcoAction Arlington to increase the tree canopy in and around National Landing, with a focus on communities with a high percentage of minority populations or people living in poverty. Data shows that insufficient tree cover leads to poor physical and mental health outcomes, higher utility costs, and a lower quality of life.

**Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing**

Our funding helped the center fully participate in the community. We support the English Empowerment Center in its mission to teach adults the basic skills of reading, writing, speaking, and understanding English so they can access employment and more fully participate in the community. Our funding helped the center pivot to virtual learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, and we continue to support this work in the new hybrid world.

**EcoAction Arlington**

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**Goodwill Industries International**

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**American Childhood Cancer Organization**

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**American University Washington College of Law**

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**American Forestar**

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**American Foundation for the Blind**

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Creating even more opportunities in the Capital Region

A leading employer

25,000+
employees in the Capital Region across corporate, technology, operations, AWS, and retail, including 8,000+ employees at Amazon’s HQ2.

$19+/hour
average starting wage for fulfillment and transportation employees, more than twice the U.S. federal minimum wage.

Full benefits,
many of which start the first day on the job, include health care, 401(k) match, and up to 20 weeks of paid parental leave.

Building employee skills

Free college
education for our front-line employees.

$1.2 billion
investment to upskill our team through programs like Career Choice—where we pay full college tuition for employees at hundreds of schools—AWS training and certifications, and technical apprenticeships.

93%
average compensation increase for employees who graduate from the nine-month Amazon Technical Academy to become software development engineers.

Strengthening our communities

$1,350
average increase in median household income in counties with Amazon facilities.

4,400
more new jobs on average in counties with Amazon facilities.


Learn more at www.aboutamazon.com
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