



Fellowship Square



Reston Resident Recognized with AmeriCorps President's Volunteer Service Award for her Work with Fellowship Square

September 11, 2024 – Reston, VA. — In a ceremony yesterday at Hunters Woods Fellowship House, Reston resident Ivana Uzunic was presented with the [AmeriCorps Gold President's Volunteer Service Award](#) in recognition of her more than 600 hours of volunteer service of aiding, assisting, and enhancing the lives of the 300+ senior residents who often struggle to make ends meet.

“The residents at Hunters Woods Fellowship House love seeing Ivana week in and week out. She greets them with a warm smile and helps us with programs and events like Tuesday Music Café that includes music, singing, and dancing,” said Christy Zeitz, CEO of Fellowship Square. “Ivana plays a big role in organizing healthy food options through our Fellowship Fresh program and makes it easy for residents to pick up nutritious foods and personal items that they otherwise may not be able to afford. We are thrilled to have such a generous person helping our residents and are so proud for her to be recognized in this way,”

Fellowship Square's Hunters Woods Fellowship House provides affordable housing to 300+ older adults who live on extremely limited fixed incomes of \$10,000 - \$15,000 per year. Through HUD funding, vouchers, community partnerships, and a supportive local network of volunteers like Ivana, Fellowship Square ensures that residents have the support they need to live independent fulfilling lives even in the face of serious obstacles, such as the high costs of housing in Reston and in the greater Washington DC area.

Born in Serbia, Uzunic worked as a physical therapist in her home country - assisting children with special needs, and volunteering with the Serbian Red Cross. After arriving in the United States four years ago and settling in Reston, she sought a place where she could give her time and build bridges in her new local community. She found Fellowship Square's Hunters Woods Fellowship House and was drawn to its multicultural/multilingual environment and its numerous volunteer opportunities to engage, to lead activities, deliver food, and enhance lives. In addition to her volunteering, she is currently a full-time student in health administration at George Mason University and will graduate this coming spring.

Led by [AmeriCorps](#) and managed in partnership with Points of Light, the President's Volunteer Service Award allows organizations to recognize their most exceptional volunteers. The President's Volunteer Service Award program honors individuals whose service positively impacts communities in every corner of the nation and inspires others to act. Uzunic was awarded the Gold Award, the highest honor awarded by AmeriCorps and President Biden, for her **609 hours** of community service.



Reston resident Ivana Uzunic was recognized with AmeriCorps' President's Volunteer Service Award for her 600+ hours of volunteering with the residents of Fellowship Square's Hunters Woods Fellowship House.

“The more you do for others, the more satisfied you are with yourself,” said Ivana Uzunic. “The kindness and appreciation of the residents fuels my passion to make a difference.” Learn more about Ivana’s volunteering experience in her “[Volunteering is a Work of Heart](#)” blog post.

Fellowship Square, a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is one of the leading local providers of affordable housing and services to low-income seniors, owning 670 units (240 of them jointly) and serving more than 800 older adults. Through HUD funding and vouchers, residents of Fellowship Houses – many who live on Social Security or Supplemental Security Income alone, with an average annual fixed-income of \$10,000/year – pay no more than 30 percent of their income toward their housing costs, including rent and a utility allowance. Through professionally managed apartment communities, programming, and services, Fellowship Square ensures that residents have the support they need to live independent and fulfilling lives even in the face of serious obstacles, such as the high costs of housing in the greater Washington DC area. For more information on Fellowship Square housing options, volunteer opportunities or donations, visit fellowshipsquare.org, call 703.860.2536 or email info@fellowshipsquare.org.

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Residents of Fellowship Square’s Hunters Woods Fellowship Square held a celebration banquet and choral performance to celebrate the volunteer who has spent so many hours assisting and supporting the community.