

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

100 Holliday Street, Rm 250
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

November 14, 2014

Mr. Russell Snyder, President/CEO
Volunteers of America Chesapeake, Inc.
7901 Annapolis Road
Lanham, MD 20706

Dear Mr. Snyder

Please accept this letter of commitment and endorsement for the grant application being submitted by VOA Chesapeake for the *Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program* to provide homeless prevention and rapid re-housing services, and general housing stability assistance with supportive services and linkages with the VA and other community resources for homeless and very low-income veteran families located in Baltimore City, Maryland.

The Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Human Services (MOHS) Continuum of Care (CoC) continually strives to enhance collaborative efforts to end homelessness throughout the Baltimore City metro area. The SSVF Program will enable VOA Chesapeake to serve as a central access point for homeless and low-income veterans and their families to receive comprehensive case management, assistance with VA and public benefits, and other supportive services they need to move towards or keep permanent housing and a better quality of life.

VOA Chesapeake has long been a vital partner in providing a continuum of services to persons and families in need in Baltimore through the Pratt House Transitional Housing Program, Paca House permanent supportive housing program and the Irvington Woods permanent supportive housing apartments. For this reason the MOHS supports VOA Chesapeake in applying for SSVF funds under Priority 1, and will continue to work cooperatively to provide program referrals as well as available housing and other social services and community resources through our partnering agencies, including permanent supportive housing, health, mental health, substance abuse and other needed services. This proposed project is a natural step in addressing the needs of homeless and low-income veterans in Baltimore City, and we will collaborate with VOA Chesapeake to expand and enhance its veterans' services.

Sincerely,

Olivia D. Farrow, Esq.

Director

Mayor's Office of Human Services

