Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Dear Friends of VOACC,

Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas continues to actively monitor the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and provide regular updates on this potential risk to our staff and clients as information changes over time. It is important that we also communicate to our supporters and partners some of the measures we are taking in response to the outbreak and share some helpful information that the public can use.

Below is a breakdown of publicly reported cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Virginia, the District of Columbia, Maryland or the Carolinas as of March 6, 2020.

*Note: These figures are not reflective of our staff or clients*

- **(0) zero confirmed reported cases in DC:**

- **(3) three confirmed cases in MD**

- **(0) zero confirmed reported cases in Virginia**

- **(1) one confirmed reported case in Raleigh, North Carolina**

The following guidelines are being observed by our staff to prevent infection:

- It’s currently flu and respiratory disease season and the CDC recommends getting a flu vaccine. While the flu vaccine will not protect against Coronavirus (COVID-19), it will help prevent the spread of germs and reduce the number of people in need of medical attention related to the flu.

- **EXERCISE UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS** in the workplace when handling bodily fluids or working with people who are ill with any upper respiratory infection.

- **WASH YOUR HANDS** frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds at a time.

- Cover your cough or sneeze by coughing or sneezing into your elbow. Throw any tissues used in the trash immediately after use.
- If you are a healthcare provider caring for a Coronavirus (COVID-19) patient or a public health responder, please take care of yourself and follow recommended infection control procedures (https://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/4EPR_AM2.pdf).

- If you have been in China or have been exposed to someone sick with COVID-19 in the last 14 days, and are concerned about COVID-19 exposure, please see your health care professional for follow-up and guidance.

RESOURCES:

Please review the following links from health officials in DC, MD, VA and the Carolina’s regarding COVID-19 for your area:

- Emergency Preparedness (CDCEP): https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00426.asp
- DC Department of Health (DCDOH): https://dchealth.dc.gov/coronavirus