



CHESAPEAKE & CAROLINAS

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Volunteers of America Chesapeake and Carolinas Launches 'Hope Has a Home'

New program to expand number of medical respite beds for individuals experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity in DC

Lanham, MD –Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas in partnership with AmeriHealth Caritas DC, Unity Healthcare and Pathways to Housing, launched the 'Hope Has A Home' program to address some of the root causes of homelessness in Washington, DC and provide a safe place for those with medical needs to recover while connecting them to housing resources and other services in the community. The program makes available 16 new beds to serve clients in need.

'Hope Has a Home' is a medical respite program for homeless individuals who are in the hospital or receiving care in a nursing facility that need a safe place to recover once they are discharged. Staffed with a Nurse Practitioner, a social worker and licensed practical nurses, participants may receive assistance with activities of daily living, mental health and substance use treatment, employment, and benefits.

To meet participants' individual goals, 'Hope Has a Home' is offered in two locations and in two phases. Phase I, located at Edson Place NE in Washington, DC, allows participants to stay until the medical reason for their admission has resolved and they no longer need assistance with daily living. Phase II, located at Congress Street NE, offers human services support, and is a bridge to permanent housing.

A 24/7 operation, this program serves adult males who are homeless and assessed as having a medical condition that requires recuperation and restoration in a safe environment in addition to those that need access to specialty medical care appointments and permanent housing.

Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas Vice President of DC Programs, Jana Berhow, stated, "We are very fortunate to provide services and address the unmet need for respite care with this program. Despite the growing use of medical respite nationwide, Washington, DC has fewer than 50 designated medical respite beds for a homeless population of over 7,000."

To learn more about 'Hope Has a Home', visit www.voachesapeake.org

About Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas

Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas is a faith-based, nonprofit organization whose mission is to empower self-reliance and inspire hope. As a church without walls, we do this through personalized housing, ministry, health, and human services that benefit vulnerable individuals, their families and the community. Founded in 1896 in Baltimore, MD, we are one of the first of 31 affiliates of Volunteers of America – one of the nation’s most comprehensive human services organizations. Today, we serve more than 9,600 people across the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia and the Carolinas.

Through a dedicated and committed team of management, staff and volunteers and guided by our Core Values: **Visionary, One Body, Integrity, Compassion, Excellence and Faith.**
