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**For Immediate Release**

**Volunteers of America Chesapeake Receives Donation from BB&T  
To Support the Non-Profit's Life-Changing Services**

*Local Bank Donated \$5,000 to Help Those in Need in Local Community*

**Lanham, MD** - (January 23, 2012) – Volunteers of America Chesapeake, a non-profit organization operating more than 26 health and human service programs throughout Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C announced today that it received a \$5,000.00 donation from BB&T.

“BB&T donated to Volunteers of America Chesapeake as part of BB&T’s mission making the communities in which we work better places to be,” said **Craig Pascal**, senior vice president, community development specialist for BB&T.

BB&T has a longstanding relationship with Volunteers of America Chesapeake. In 2010, the non-profit was chosen to be a beneficiary organization for BB&T’s Lighthouse Project. The annual Lighthouse Projects includes employee volunteerism and financial support in the communities in which BB&T operates. Since BB&T began the Lighthouse Project in 2009 the corporation has completed more than 3,200 projects, provided more than 150,000 volunteer hours and touched the lives of more than 5 million people. For Volunteers of America Chesapeake, more than 65 employees from BB&T Washington, D.C. Region/Prince George’s County donated three days of manual labor to improve Volunteers of America Chesapeake’s Eastern Avenue Apartments, which provides low-income families from Prince George’s County permanent housing, educational and vocational training programs, crises intervention and financial classes to help them on their way to self-sufficiency. BB&T also donated \$10,000 worth of items to improve the non-profit’s housing community’s playground, renovate the community room and create a brand new computer lab for the families.

“BB&T has a track record of supporting its high performing non-profit customers serving our local community and Volunteers of America Chesapeake fits into that category,” he added. Pascal is also on the Board of Directors for Volunteers of America Chesapeake.

“We are grateful for the company’s dedication to our mission to inspire self-reliance, dignity and hope through health and human services,” said **Russell K. Snyder**, president and CEO of Volunteers of America Chesapeake. “Corporate donations like this one aid our organization in providing our high-quality human services – and this donation couldn’t have come at a better time as we are currently serving 10,000 men, women and children in need – 1,000 more people than we were helping last year at this time.”

Private donations, in any amount, have a lasting impact by supporting Volunteers of America Chesapeake’s life-changing services. A major donation of \$1,000 or more through the non-profit’s “Give A Major Gift, Make A Major Difference” campaign may provide 25 days in one of the

organization's emergency shelters; or cover the cost of 10 employment training sessions or reunite 6 families or fund 4 field trips for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

To learn more about Volunteers of America Chesapeake's corporate donation programs, or more about the "Give A Major Gift, Make A Major Difference" campaign please contact Assistant Vice President of Development James Wynn at 800.646.2828 or [jwynn@VOAches.org](mailto:jwynn@VOAches.org) To make a donation please visit [www.VOAchesapeake.org](http://www.VOAchesapeake.org) or [www.VOAchesapeake.org/GiveAMajorGift](http://www.VOAchesapeake.org/GiveAMajorGift)

#### **ABOUT VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA CHESAPEAKE**

*Volunteers of America Chesapeake, Inc. is a faith-based, non-profit organization whose mission is to inspire self-reliance, dignity and hope through health and human services in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. Founded in 1896 in Baltimore, MD, Volunteers of America Chesapeake is one of the first branches of Volunteers of America – one of the nation's largest and most comprehensive human services organizations. Through a dedicated and committed team of management, staff and volunteers and guided by our Core Values: Caring, Respect, Faith, Quality and Trust Volunteers of America Chesapeake helps more than 10,000 people each year at our 26 programs serving: the homeless, mentally ill, individuals with intellectual disabilities, the aging, those in need of affordable housing, those recovering from substance abuse and community corrections. For more information about Volunteers of America Chesapeake, visit: [www.VOAchesapeake.org](http://www.VOAchesapeake.org).*

#### **ABOUT BB&T**

*BB&T Corporation (NYSE: BBT) is one of the largest financial services holding companies in the U.S. with \$168 billion in assets and market capitalization of \$14.9 billion, as of September 30, 2011. Based in Winston-Salem, N.C., the company operates approximately 1,800 financial centers in 12 states and Washington, D.C., and offers a full range of consumer and commercial banking, securities brokerage, asset management, mortgage and insurance products and services. A Fortune 500 company, BB&T is consistently recognized for outstanding client satisfaction by J.D. Power and Associates, the U.S. Small Business Administration, Greenwich Associates and others. More information about BB&T and its full line of products and services is available at [www.BBT.com](http://www.BBT.com).*

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