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**For Immediate Release**

**Volunteers of America Chesapeake Wins Grant Funding to Support  
Emergency Homeless Shelter Services**

*United Way awarded \$7,620.00 to Help Homeless Children & Adults in Loudoun County*

**Lanham, MD** - (January 24, 2012) – Volunteers of America Chesapeake, a non-profit organization operating more than 28 health and human service programs throughout Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C announced today that it was awarded \$7,620.00 in grant funding from United Way of the National Capital Area.

Volunteers of America Chesapeake was one of 15 Loudoun County member organizations to receive the grant funds, totaling \$157, 860. Thirty-three grant proposals were received for this competitive grant funding opportunity.

This particular funding will support the non-profit's Loudoun Homeless Services Center, operated in partnership with the Loudoun County Department of Family Services, the primary funding agency. Located in Leesburg, VA, Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Loudoun Homeless Services Center comprises four innovative programs – the Loudoun Emergency Homeless Shelter, a Drop-In Center, the Loudoun Transitional Housing Program and the Cold Weather Shelter. Services provided on site and through referral include: case management, housing support and placement, vocational training and placement assistance, education opportunities, mental and physical evaluation and healthcare, and life skills training. In 2010, the Homeless Services Center served approximately 450 men, women and children – many of whom were experiencing homelessness for the first time. Due to the current economic situation, the Center is often running at full capacity and with a waiting list of individuals needing immediate support. At least 30 percent of those benefitting from the Center's services are children.

“United Way’s funding helps provide for specific client needs ranging from basics like food and medicine for a diabetic resident, to helping pay for a training class for a resident,” said **Helen Richardson**, Senior Program Director of the Loudoun Homeless Services Center. “United Way’s continued support allows Volunteers of America Chesapeake to provide some of the extensive services that clients at the Loudoun Homeless Services Center need to help them attain or return to self-sufficiency.”

Volunteers of America Chesapeake is a proud United Way of the National Capital Area member. (United Way NCA Designation Code: 8471 and Combined Federal Campaign Number (CFC): 57076)

“We are grateful for the United Way’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. “Funding 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 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) Volunteers of America Chesapeake’s United Way NCA Designation Code is 8471 and Combined Federal Campaign Number (CFC) is 57076.

For more information on the Loudoun Homeless Services Center please visit:  
<http://www.VOAchesapeake.org/LoudounHomelessServicesCenter>

#### **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 28 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 UNITED WAY OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA**

*Focusing on the critical areas of education, financial stability and health, United Way of the National Capital Area and its nonprofit members not only provide immediate relief of social problems affecting the community, but also works to alleviate the underlying causes of these issues. Serving the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, and Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties for more than 35 years, United Way of the National Capital Area works to inspire acts of caring, deliver hope and improve lives. For more information about United Way of the National Capital Area, visit <http://www.unitedwaynca.org>*

#### **EDITOR’S NOTE:**

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