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By Fresia Rodriguez Cadavid

The Seat Pleasant home of more than 80 low-income families recently underwent construction to add recreational facilities.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 20 marked the culmination of three days in which volunteers worked to improve Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Eastern Avenue Apartments.

Managed by VOA Chesapeake since 1994, the 88-unit housing community provides low-income families from Prince George's County permanent supportive housing with resident services, including educational and vocational training programs, crises intervention and financial classes to help residents be self-sufficient.

"The Volunteers of America Chesapeake Eastern Avenue Apartments revitalization project allows BB&T to bring joy to the lives of 88 families through our contributions," said Heath Campbell, BB&T's Prince George's County area executive.

The three days of labor, along with BB&T's \$10,000 contribution, will allow the families to enjoy a new playground, community room and computer lab.

"We are extremely excited about the partnership we have forged with BB&T. Their focus on caring in the community is directly in synch with our ongoing mission of creating sustained positive life changes for individuals and families in the communities we serve," said Franklyn Baker, VOA Chesapeake Chief Operating Officer. "These resident-focused projects are vital to the ongoing viability of our programs, specifically those like Eastern Avenue Apartments that provide affordable housing to low-income families who qualify for Section 8 rental assistance."

BB&T participates in the revitalization project with Volunteers of America Chesapeake through its Lighthouse Project. The project — founded by the company's CEO, Kelly King — provides opportunities for employees to volunteer work time to benefit their local communities. The Eastern Avenue Apartment project is one of 17 community service projects BB&T has assisted with this year.

"The leadership of BB&T and Volunteers of America Chesapeake is to be applauded for their commitment to the community, especially in a small area like Seat Pleasant," said Seat Pleasant Mayor Eugene Grant. "We believe that this effort by BB&T and Volunteers of America Chesapeake is a great step toward the rebounding of America—particularly through the turbulent times in which we live."