



**\*\*MEDIA ALERT AND PHOTO OPPORTUNITY\*\***

**For Immediate Release:**

October 21, 2010

Courtney Dunn  
Volunteers of America Chesapeake, Inc.  
Communications & Media Relations Manager  
240.764.2632  
[cdunn@voaches.org](mailto:cdunn@voaches.org)

**AfterShare Volunteers Clean Up A Formerly Homeless Resident's Campsite to Commemorate His New Life and Give Back to the Community**

*Activity part of Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Hilda M. Barg Homeless Prevention Center's Make a Difference Day on October 23*

**What:** **J.D. Glass**, a formerly homeless member of the Prince William County community, has gathered members of Volunteers of America Chesapeake's AfterShare Program; current and former homeless residents of the Hilda M. Barg Homeless Prevention Center; and Woodbridge residents to join him in cleaning the Woodridge campsite where he once lived. The clean up will take place on October 23. Glass's mission for the clean-up is to give closure to his past life and celebrate his new life. Glass struggled with alcohol abuse and lived without a job at a Woodbridge campsite for more than 20 years. Volunteers of America Chesapeake provided him with compassion and opportunities to turn his life around. As a result he has been inspired to do the same for others who face the struggles of homelessness.

**Gayle Sanders**, director of the Hilda M. Barg Homeless Prevention Center, had been encouraging Glass through outreach work for nearly 10 years. Convinced he was near death, he finally reached out to her and asked for assistance. The Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Hilda M. Barg Homeless Prevention Center collaborated with local agencies including hospice and healthcare services to provide services and care to Glass. When his health improved, he returned to the Center where staff helped to place him in a room for rent. Through the AfterShare program, he volunteers at the Center several times a week. Glass has made it his mission to give back to the homeless community and help others through Volunteers of America Chesapeake.

**When:** Saturday, October 23, 12–2 p.m.

**Where:** Meet and park at the Woodbridge DMV (volunteers and media have been granted permission to park at the DMV beginning at noon)  
2731 Caton Hill Rd.  
Woodbridge, VA

More information can be found on [www.facebook.com/AfterShare](http://www.facebook.com/AfterShare)

**Background:** Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Hilda M. Barg Homeless Prevention Center is located in Woodbridge, Virginia. The Center is a 30-bed, short-term shelter assisting homeless families and single adults to develop individual plans for self-sufficient living. Shelter residents, homeless individuals and other community members in need have been benefitting from the Volunteers of America Chesapeake's on-site programs since 1990. These programs provide intensive case management including: mental health evaluation and counseling; drug and alcohol abuse prevention services; children's services; budget training; adult education and employment services. Hilda M. Barg Homeless Prevention Center also offers an AfterShare program allowing former residents to participate in programs that give back to both the center and community. The Hilda M. Barg Homeless Prevention Center is located at: 14945 Jefferson Davis Highway : Woodbridge, Virginia 22191 Phone: 703.680.5403

## **VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA CHESAPEAKE**

*Volunteers of America Chesapeake, Inc. is a faith-based, non-profit organization whose mission is to create sustained positive life changes for individuals and families by providing high-quality human service leading to self-reliance, dignity and hope 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 8,000 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.VOChesapeake.org](http://www.VOChesapeake.org)*

###