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For Immediate Release

### **Volunteers of America Chesapeake at Forefront of New, Cost-Effective Information Technology Services**

**Lanham, MD** - (April 27, 2010) - Volunteers of America Chesapeake, which operates 26 human services programs throughout the region serving the homeless, mentally ill, intellectually disabled, ex-offenders, substance abusers, the elderly, and children, introduced cutting-edge cloud computing solutions to its 600-employee, mid-Atlantic-based organization.

According to Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Chief Financial Officer **Shyam Desigan**, the use of cloud computing solutions has saved the non-profit a significant amount of money that it can now dedicate to the more than 8,000 people the organization serves each year. He added that the new internet-based computing system allows staff to share resources, software and information. This on-demand system not only helps the agency save on capital expenses while increasing its high-speed bandwidth but also helps the organization respond to the client needs faster and more efficiently at a much lower cost than before.

In addition to saving money and increasing bandwidth, cloud computing services have also allowed Volunteers of America Chesapeake to do the following:

- Securely store, share and archive electronic files for all 26 programs in the organization.
- Allow all of the non-profit's 600 employees throughout the mid-Atlantic region to be on the same e-mail to improve communication whether they are in their office or traveling.
- Accelerate technology adoption at the program level.

Implementing these technology upgrades and cutting-edge initiatives was a priority for Volunteers of America Chesapeake as the non-profit runs programs throughout the region; with employees located as far south as Virginia Beach and as far north as Baltimore. As a result the agency not only responded to the growing need for an efficient way to share digital information without a high price tag but also is acting as a model for other non-profit organizations. Desigan recently shared Volunteers of America Chesapeake's initiatives with more than 150 non-profit governmental organizations as a guest speaker on a panel at Microsoft's Washington D.C. NGO Connection Day.

"The cloud computing solutions offer non-profits a more efficient, lower cost and secure technology platform that will help integrate all business operations over time," said **Russell K. Snyder**, President and CEO of Volunteers of America Chesapeake. "I am extremely excited to know that our technology team is on the cutting edge of the solutions available to our business."

## **VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA CHESAPEAKE**

*Volunteers of America Chesapeake, founded in 1896 in Baltimore, is the locally chartered affiliate of Volunteers of America, Inc., one of the nation's largest and most comprehensive human services organizations. They accomplish their spiritually based mission by serving over 8,000 people annually through programs spread geographically from Baltimore, Maryland to Virginia Beach, Virginia.*

*Volunteers of America Chesapeake operates 26 programs that serve the homeless, mentally ill, intellectually disabled, ex-offenders, substance abusers, the elderly and children. The professional staff of more than 600 employees, partner with dedicated volunteers, local government officials, businesses, civic organizations and the faith community to provide high quality human services.*