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For Immediate Release

Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Residential Program Center Announces First Annual "Harvest for Hope" Charity Event

October 30 Event to Feature Silent & Live Auction to Raise Money for Essential Arlington County Homeless Services Center

Lanham, MD – (August 30, 2010) – Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Residential Program Center (RPC) is hosting its first ever **"Harvest for Hope"** Silent Auction Charity Event on **Saturday, October 30, 2010** at the **National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Conference & Event Center** located at **4301 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA** – in the Ballston area of Arlington.

"We are so excited to have been able to partner with the National Rural Electric Coop in Arlington to host our first **Harvest for Hope** fundraiser," said Christopher Rhodes, RPC advisory board chair. "With more than 5,000 square feet of space we plan to invite many Washingtonian partners in homelessness to raise awareness to meet the challenges for our community and the surrounding area. Together we can do great things for the local community and Washington area."

The Residential Program Center (RPC) was established in 1994 through a partnership with Volunteers of America Chesapeake and the Arlington County Government to provide three crucial services to the Arlington area all under one roof; social-model detoxification, recovery and homeless supportive services for single adults.

In light of Arlington County budget cuts impacting the services at the center, the RPC Advisory Board is hosting this inaugural event to raise not only awareness about the program, but also much-needed funds to continue to provide these important services to the community. "I'm very excited RPC is hosting this event," said Senior Program Director Eileen Corbet. "The proceeds go to two very important causes in our society: homelessness and substance abuse."

RPC is currently seeking donations to help make this event a success: event sponsors, food and beverage donations, silent auction items, volunteers, shelter-recovery toiletries and clothing items and monetary donations.

For more information or to get involved, contact: Eileen Corbet, RPC Senior Program Director at (703) 228-0014 or ecorbet@arlingtonva.us or go to www.voaches.org and click on Residential Program Center.

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.

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