



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

**For Immediate Release:**

October 25, 2010

Courtney Dunn

Volunteers of America Chesapeake, Inc.

Communications & Media Relations Manager

240.764.2632

[cdunn@voaches.org](mailto:cdunn@voaches.org)

**Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Residential Program Center Announces "Harvest for Hope"**

*Charity Event to Sustain Essential Services for Arlington County Residents who are Homeless or  
Need Substance Abuse Intervention*

**What:** Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Residential Program Center (RPC) will host its first "Harvest for Hope" silent auction and charity event, Saturday, Oct. 30 in Arlington, Va.

With this inaugural event, the staff and board members of RPC hope to raise awareness about the facility's programs and also raise much-needed funds in order to continue to provide the essential homeless and substance abuse recovery services to the community in light of Arlington County budget cuts.

"This event is about new beginnings, and recognizing everyone's greatness that lies within," said **Christopher Rhodes**, RPC Advisory Board Chair. "There are no limits to understanding that we all have challenges to conquer, setbacks to understand with yet tremendous opportunities to learn and grow. Together at RPC, we can make a huge impact on touching the lives of others through volunteering, sharing the cherished human spirit, compassion and love."

Vice Chairman of the Arlington County Board **Christopher Zimmerman** will address the crowd with opening remarks. **Congressman Jim Moran** will also be stopping by. Volunteers of America Chesapeake President & CEO **Russell K. Snyder** will attend with members of the Executive Team. Guests will have the opportunity to bid on 100 breathtaking silent auction items valued at nearly \$11,000 including a complete room makeover, romantic getaways to Cabo San Lucas, Santa Fe and Virginia Wine Country, an autographed poster by Major League Baseball Hall of Famer Mickey Mantel and Lunch on the Hill with Congressman Moran. The event also features a great lineup of entertainers, menu items, and beverages. The proceeds benefit the 800 individuals who come through the RPC's shelter and substance abuse programs each year.

**When:** 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday, October 30, 2010

**Where:** NRECA Conference Center Ballroom  
4301 Wilson Blvd.  
Arlington, Va. 22203  
For more information and for tickets visit [www.HarvestforHope2010.com](http://www.HarvestforHope2010.com)

**Background:** Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Residential Program Center provides three crucial services – non-medical detoxification, substance abuse recovery and homeless services for single adults – all under one roof. Within this unique program, a 12-bed Detoxification Unit provides social model detoxification services for up to 14 days; a 10-bed Early Recovery Unit provides intensive post-detoxification treatment services for up to three months; and a 44-bed homeless shelter provides hi-intensity case management, education, training and referral services for single adults. Since its inception in 1994, Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Residential Program Center is the only 24-hour program of this caliber in Arlington County.

The event includes musical performances by the Songwriters' Association of Washington. "The songwriting/music community is a caring and giving group of people who often donate their time and talents for the enjoyment and benefit of others," said Songwriters' Association of Washington President Jean Bayou. "This event and cause fits right in with who we are and what we like to do and we are inspired by the dedication and tireless efforts of the event's organizers. We're proud to be playing for such a good cause!"

Award-Winning Performers for the evening include: Gina DeSimone and The Moaners (Swing Band), Lea (Jazz/Soul), Dulcie Taylor (Contemporary/Country-Rock), Laura Baron, Pat Quinn & Ron Goad (Folk to Jazz to Blues), Yvette Greene, Gary Jaffe, Rodney Parsons, Jean Bayou (Contemporary Folk), The Failurs (Motown) and Chyp Davis & Andrea Romero (Contemporary and Soul).

###

## **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)*