



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

For Immediate Release

### **Prince George's County Government Department of Family Services Acknowledges Outstanding Efforts of Volunteers of America Chesapeake**

**Lanham, MD** - (July 27, 2010) - Volunteers of America Chesapeake, the local affiliate of one of the nation's largest and most comprehensive human services organizations, announced today that its Prince George's County Mental Health Services received a stellar review from the Prince George's County Government's Department of Family Services. The review was completed for the purpose of monitoring the government grants the program receives from the Mental Health and Disabilities Administration.

This review comes off the heels of the program also winning a "Special Recognition Award for Dedicated Service and a 'Can Do' Attitude" from Prince George's County.

"It is so good to know these programs are available and they are doing more than meeting a need in our community," said **Karen Burks**, contracts manager for the Department of Family Services, in her review of Volunteers of America Chesapeake's program. "They are adding quality to the lives of the individuals who otherwise may have to be in an institutional setting."

Volunteers of America Chesapeake receives grants from the Prince George's County Government's Department of Family Services Mental Health and Disabilities Administration, which allows the non-profit to serve 10 individuals through its Psychogeriatric Nursing Program and 24 individuals through Enhanced Services. The grant allows Volunteers of America Chesapeake to provide mental health services to individuals suffering from complex medical issues. These programs, both part of Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Prince George's County Mental Health Services, construct individual rehabilitation plans for each person receiving assistance based on his or her individual needs.

"Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Prince George's County Mental Health is both pleased and honored to receive such complimentary comments from the Department of Family Services," said Senior Program Director **Tomeka Bolden**. "It is a true indicator of

how hard the Program works to exhibit Volunteers of America Chesapeake's core values of Caring, Respect, Faith, Quality, and Trust.”

Bolden also directly credits her staff for their hard work and commitment to serving their clients. The program is run by 19 Volunteers of America Chesapeake staff members, including 13 Residential Counselors, one Registered Nurse, one Rehabilitation Supervisor, one Rehabilitation Director, one Rehabilitation Coordinator and two Residential Coordinators.

#### **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 more than 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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