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For Immediate Release

**Volunteers of America Chesapeake and BB&T Partner for Three Days of Labor to Improve Housing Community for Low-Income Families**

*BB&T Donates time, talent and \$10,000 to Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Eastern Avenue Apartments*

**Lanham, MD** – (September 8, 2010) – Volunteers of America Chesapeake is teaming up with approximately 65 BB&T employees from BB&T Washington, D.C. Region/Prince George's County for three days of hard work to improve Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Eastern Avenue Apartments. This facility provides low-income families from Prince George's County permanent housing, educational and vocational training programs, crises intervention and financial classes to help them on their way to self-sufficiency.

Between Sept. 13 and Sept. 15, approximately 65 volunteers will work eight hour days and contribute \$10,000 worth of items to improve the housing community's playground, renovate the community room and create a brand new computer lab for the families.

"I, along with the families at Eastern Avenue that I work with every day, am incredibly touched by the generosity of the entire team at BB&T," said **Nancy Staten**, program director for Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Eastern Avenue Apartments. "The company's commitment to three full days of service to not only improve our facilities, but provide luxuries that we haven't had before, is more than we could have asked for from a corporate partner. We are so blessed to have such great support from our community."

BB&T has had a longstanding relationship with Volunteers of America Chesapeake and is participating in the revitalization of the Eastern Avenue Apartments through its Lighthouse Project. This is the second year of the project, which was founded by the company's CEO, **Kelly King**, and allows employees to volunteer work time in their local communities. Last year, BB&T sponsored more than 1,000 projects impacting more than 1 million people. This year, BB&T has chosen to work on 17 projects throughout the D.C. area, including this partnership with Volunteers of America Chesapeake.

"BB&T has enjoyed the privilege of working with Volunteers of America Chesapeake in numerous capacities over the years and it became increasingly obvious that our organizations share similar missions," said **Heath Campbell**, BB&T Prince George's County executive. "Engrained as a part of our mission at BB&T is to make the communities in which we work a better place to be. This year, when our team at BB&T was researching a way to make a

positive impact in our community, it was a natural fit to align our efforts with this existing partnership.”

After the volunteers complete the revitalization project, Volunteers of America Chesapeake’s Eastern Avenue Apartments and BB&T will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony at the housing facility on Sept. 20 at 5 p.m. for the entire community to attend.

“The relationship between Volunteers of America Chesapeake and BB&T has been an incredibly valuable and longstanding one and we are grateful for the company’s dedication to our mission,” said **Russell K. Snyder**, president and CEO of Volunteers of America Chesapeake. “Corporate sponsorships like this one not only aid our organization in providing our high-quality human services to the more than 8,000 individuals and families we serve but also augment and enrich those services. When a company such as BB&T shows this type of commitment to our cause by providing their time, talent and financial support, it is not only heartwarming to the families we serve, but to our entire staff as well.”

#### **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.*

#### **ABOUT BB&T**

*BB&T Corporation (NYSE: BBT) is one of the 10<sup>th</sup> largest financial services holding companies in the U.S. with more than \$155.1 billion in assets and market capitalization of \$18.2 billion, as of June 30, 2010. Based in Winston-Salem, N.C., the company operates more than 1,800 financial centers in 12 states and Washington, D.C., and offers a full range of consumer and commercial banking, securities brokerage, asset management, mortgage and insurance products and services. A Fortune 500 company, BB&T is consistently recognized for outstanding client satisfaction by J.D. Power and Associates, the U.S. Small Business Administration, Greenwich Associates and others. More information about BB&T and its full line of products and services is available at [www.BBT.com](http://www.BBT.com).*

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