



CONTACT NAME: Stephanie Frankel
PHONE: 410-561-8886
EMAIL ADDRESS: stephanie@barbclapp.com

For Immediate Release

Volunteers of America Chesapeake Chosen to Receive Prestigious Volunteer Maryland AmeriCorps Service Site Partnership

AmeriCorps Partnership Provides Volunteer Maryland Coordinator to Recruit and Manage Volunteers for one of the Nation's Largest Human Services Organization

Lanham, MD (May 26, 2011) - Volunteers of America Chesapeake announced today that it has been chosen by Volunteer Maryland for a prestigious partnership dedicated to establishing a new position in the organization of Volunteer Maryland Coordinator. This newly created role will work with Volunteers of America Chesapeake's 12 human services programs throughout Maryland to recruit and supervise volunteers, create a comprehensive volunteer training program, evaluate progress, develop community partnerships and serve as a public ambassador for the human services organization.

Volunteers of America Chesapeake, which helps more than 9,000 people each year throughout Maryland, Virginia and D.C. with its 26 human services programs, was one of 30 applications chosen by Volunteer Maryland to create the new position. Currently, Volunteers of America Chesapeake engages more than 2,000 volunteers each year. The non-profit's goal for the Volunteer Maryland Coordinator is to increase the total number of direct service volunteers to 2,500 a year by 2013.

"Volunteer Maryland's role is to be a resource to organizations looking to engage volunteers, and to make volunteers a more vital, renewable and respected resource," said **Patrice Beverly**, Outreach Manager for Volunteer Maryland. "Volunteers of America Chesapeake's dedication to the community and to its volunteers fits completely with our mission, and offers the opportunity to broaden how volunteers can truly make a difference in the lives of others."

The Volunteer Maryland Coordinator will be an 11-month, full-time position working across all programs and service areas, creating, developing and managing a comprehensive volunteer program for Volunteers of America Chesapeake's human service facilities in Maryland. The position will include a stipend, financial education assistance and full health insurance.

"The partnership with Volunteer Maryland AmeriCorps will greatly help Volunteers of America Chesapeake reach its potential when it comes to attracting, retaining and training the thousands of volunteers we have the opportunity to work with each year to support our vital services," said **Russell K. Snyder**, President and CEO of Volunteers of America Chesapeake. "Volunteers are at the core of what we do, and this partnership will not only help us create a more efficient and comprehensive volunteer program but will also help provide more meaningful and impactful volunteer opportunities – in the end helping us to add even more quality to the diverse services we provide to those in need."

Interested applicants should visit www.volunteermaryland.org/amicorps.html or www.voachesapeake.org. Applications are now available and the position will start Sept. 14, 2011.

VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA CHESAPEAKE

Volunteers of America Chesapeake, Inc. is a faith-based, non-profit organization whose mission is to inspire self-reliance, dignity and hope through human services 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 9,000 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.VOAchesapeake.org

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