



CHESAPEAKE & CAROLINAS

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Volunteers of America Chesapeake and Volunteers of America Carolinas Merge to Expand Services, Transform Lives Together

Lanham, MD – Effective July 1, 2019, Volunteers of America Chesapeake and Volunteers of America Carolinas are merging program and administrative operations to have a greater impact in the lives of the men, women and children we serve. The new organization, known as Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas, have joined forces to serve more than 8400 people from 48 programs in over 125 communities across the region.

“By combining the strengths of our organizations, we are now better positioned for regional growth, to enhance the quality of our direct support and clinical services to the populations we serve and invest in our most valuable asset – our employees,” stated Russ Snyder, President and CEO of Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas.

As a stronger organization, Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas will leverage their organizational presence and programmatic outcomes to help more people in need of supportive housing, workforce development and health care in the Washington Metropolitan area and North and South Carolina. The merger of the affiliates will allow them to continue to provide all their current services to existing clients and enhance the expansion of veteran services. The Carolinas currently serves veterans in 58 counties across North Carolina and these services can be replicated in more locations across the region.

“I have been only on the Volunteers of America Carolinas Board of Directors since October 2018 but am very pleased with the impact we are having in the lives of the veterans and their families through our services,” stated Board Member Judith Hostler. “We have had significant growth due to the ability to have our program leadership focused more on services rather than operating the back office which is now handled by Volunteers of America Chesapeake. The merger will only strengthen our opportunities to even do better in our communities.”

Volunteers of America Carolinas has grown rapidly in size since Volunteers of America Chesapeake began managing the affiliate nearly 20 months ago. During that time, VOA Carolinas was solicited as a nonprofit provider for the Back@Home Project, a disaster housing program response model for how North Carolina will handle major disasters. This project’s mission is to provide a housing option for individuals who are not receiving FEMA individual assistance in the disaster counties and who do not have a housing option

“The Carolinas team is ecstatic for this merger,” said Tiana Joyner, Vice President, Carolina Territory. “The collaboration and support will allow us to have a farther reach and in turn create a larger impact. Our Volunteers of America President Mike King often says that ‘we are in the love business’. As a team, we will continue to be dedicated to helping the most vulnerable by providing the services they need wrapped in that love.”

As one of the nation’s largest nonprofit providers of quality, affordable housing, the merged affiliates will create an affordable housing portfolio in the Carolinas and invest greater resources in VOA’s mission to preserve the service-enriched housing both organizations currently provide. Additionally, with VOA Chesapeake’s expertise in developmental disabilities services, they can expand their behavioral health competency in the Carolinas. It is VOA Chesapeake and Carolinas belief that with the increased reach, the combined entities will continue to achieve the mission of their core values of collaboration, compassion, excellence, integrity and respect.

The combined organization will maintain administrative offices in Lanham, MD and Durham, NC with program offices located in several cities within the Washington/Baltimore region and the Carolinas. For more information, please go to the websites at www.voaches.org or www.voacarolinas.org.

About Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas

Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas, Inc. is a faith-based, non-profit organization whose mission is to empower self-reliance and inspire hope. As a church without walls, we do this through personalized housing, ministry, health, and human services that benefit vulnerable individuals, their families and the community.

Through a dedicated and committed team of management, staff and volunteers and guided by our Core Values: **Visionary, One Body, Integrity, Compassion, Excellence and Faith.**
