

## Community rallies to assist neighbors impacted by fires

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**Chesapeake Beach, MD** – In response to the fatal April 3 fires thousands of community members, civic organizations and local businesses have responded to aid families displaced. Contributions total over \$50,000 in monetary donations; with \$32,000 in funds and over \$20,000 in gift cards. United Way of Calvert County facilitated the collection of monetary donations with 100% of the funds going to the nine (9) families displaced. “It brings great hope to see our community show extraordinary resiliency, and care, during this tragic circumstance. We are thankful for the Town’s partnership with the County in providing services to the families impacted and look forward to continuing to foster that relationship.” stated Mayor Patrick J. “Irish” Mahoney.

Through the coordination of the Calvert County Department of Social Services monetary donations have been utilized for rent payments, medical devices, bedding, security deposits and storage units for displaced families. With the basics covered, remaining funds are being distributed directly to the families. Gift cards are being used to purchase items, as they are needed, and will be a resource for families in the coming months to offset expenses. Currently five (5) families are receiving furniture donations, as they establish their new homes, and (4) families have benefited from clothing and personal item donations.

Calvert Family Advocates have provided seven families with school clothing. Calvert County Public Schools is currently providing two families with transportation daily to their home school, maintaining consistency for children impacted. All families have obtained housing, or are staying with family in Calvert County, with over half of the families remaining in the Twin Beach area of Chesapeake Beach and North Beach.

Understanding that recovering will take additional time, the families have been provided referrals to Calvert County Crisis Intervention Services to continue to receive support and assistance. Without the generosity of the community, additional monetary support for the families would not have been possible. While donations are no longer being requested, funds will be distributed as they are received.

Thank you, from the Town of Chesapeake Beach, for your generosity and quick action!

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