



Christmas in April*Calvert County, Inc.

www.ChristmasInAprilCalvertCounty.org

Volume 14

P.O. Box 2761

Prince Frederick, MD 20678

410-535-9044

Fall 2025

2025 Year in Review: Building Hope, One Home at a Time

As we reflect on 2025, we are filled with deep gratitude for another year of service, partnership, and compassion. Christmas in April Calvert County continued its mission of repairing homes and rebuilding hope for our neighbors—proving once again that when a community comes together, remarkable things happen.

Every ramp built, roof repaired, and porch replaced represents more than a construction project—it's a promise kept to help our neighbors live safely and with dignity in the homes they love.

Making a Difference in 2025

This year, we completed work on 54 homes and three community facilities—the East John Youth Community Center, the HELP Association, and Patuxent Habitat for Humanity.

Of these homes, 21 were new to our program and 33 were returning homeowners, reflecting the ongoing relationships and trust built over time.

We received 126 applications, visiting 104 homes to ensure the most vulnerable homeowners received the help they needed.

In total, 97 residents benefitted from our work this year—ranging in age from young children to seniors in their nineties. The average homeowner has lived in their home for nearly 29 years, a powerful reminder that the people we serve are the heart and history of Calvert County.

We proudly served 4 veterans and 35 homes with residents living with a disability, completing 42 accessibility modifications to improve safety and independence.

Meeting Critical Needs

The majority of those we served fall within the lowest income categories defined by HUD:

- 44 households were at the *extremely low-income* level
- 7 households were *very low income*
- 3 households were *low income*

Behind each statistic is a family whose life was changed—whether through a dry roof, a working heater, or the simple peace of mind that comes from knowing someone cares.

Powered by Volunteers

Our volunteers remain the cornerstone of everything we do. In 2025, 702 volunteers—384 skilled and 318 unskilled—donated an extraordinary 11,612 hours of service.

Their dedication turned blueprints into blessings, and challenges into opportunities. From tradespeople to first-time helpers, each contributed not only time and talent but heart, making every project possible.

Building for the Future

Sustainability continues to be a key focus. This year, 50 homes incorporated green building elements—improving energy and water efficiency, air quality, and long-term livability. These improvements help reduce monthly costs for homeowners while contributing to a healthier, more resilient community.

A Legacy of Service

Since our founding in 1991, Christmas in April Calvert County has repaired 1,210 homes and community facilities—a legacy built on compassion, craftsmanship, and the power of neighbors helping neighbors.

Looking Ahead to 2026

As we prepare for another year, we carry forward the same mission that has guided us for almost three-and-a half decades: keeping our neighbors warm, safe, and independent in their homes and we remain committed to expanding our impact through collaboration and innovation.

In 2025, we partnered with the Calvert County Commission for Veterans and Military Families to expand outreach to local veterans. In 2026, we aim to build on that effort—providing more support to those who have served our country.

There are also plans in the works to collaborate with Calvert County Government on a Maryland Affordable Housing Trust grant to address plumbing needs for low-income households—helping meet one of the most persistent challenges faced by the homeowners we serve.

Together, with your continued support, we will keep making Calvert County a better, safer, and more hopeful place to call home—one house, one project, one act of kindness at a time.



Board of Directors:

Russell Bowie, President
Randy Kozik, Vice President
Patricia Pringle, Secretary
Sean McGowan, Treasurer
Richard Alu
Jesse Atkins
Austin Benton
Steve Brooks
Vada Brooks
Beth Carter
Larry Carter
Megan Deaton
Phil Kholr
Lorraine Joyer
Carolyn Mohler
Natalie Moore
Elizabeth Phelps
Glenn Phelps
Bob Robertson
Steve Sanders
Donna Sisson
Stacy Tayman

Resident Agent

Laurence W. B. Cumberland

Honorary Board Members

Pat Buehler
Linda Herdeman

House Selection Committee

Carolyn Mohler, Chairperson	Jon Gifford
Dick Alu	Phil Kholr
Vince Antonioli	Randy Kozik
Keith Williams	Natalie Moore
Russell Bowie	Glenn Phelps
Vada Brooks	Pat Pringle
Steve Brooks	Tom Reinecker
Beth Carter	Bob Robertson
Larry Carter	Steve Sanders
Christa Conant	Donna Sisson
	Guffrie Smith

House Sponsors

AC Construction	Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church
AH Hatcher	HELP Association
Calvert County Lions Club	Lowes
Calvert Retired School Personnel	Maryland Affordable Housing Trust
Cave to Castle Remodeling	Pathway Wealth Partners LLC
Cedar Point Credit Union	Patuxent Habitat for Humanity
Chaney Cares	SMECO
Christ Church	The K&V Foundation
Country Side LLC	SMILE
Constellation Energy	St. Nicholas Lutheran Church
Cove Point LNG	Smithville United Methodist Church
DCS Corp	Sneade's Ace Hardware
Dean Lumber Center	
Friendship Community Baptist Church	

House Captains and House Partners

Calvert County Lions Club	Emerging Leadership Southern	National Junior Honor Society of Calvert
Brian Owens	Maryland Class of 2025	Middle School
Calvert Association of Educational	Ashley Mowatt	Amanda Tyndall
Support Staff	Friendship Community Baptist Church	National Junior Honor Society of Mill
Stacey Taymen	Rob Waltman	Creek Middle School
Calvert County Democratic	Friendship United Methodist Church	Jen Murphy
Women's Club	Chuck Muller	Ben Keys
John Yoe	Ken Reynolds	New Life Church
Calvert Grace Community Church	Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian	Randy Morgan
Warren Courtney	Church	Ron Rambo
Calvert County Government	Beth Carter	Pathway Wealth Partners LLC
Tom Jones and Monty Parks	Larry Carter	Mike Cox
Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center	Huntingtown HS STORM	Southern Maryland Realtors
Cave to Castle Remodeling	Marshall Pike	Natalie Moore
Glenn Phelps	Huntingtown United Methodist	Smithville United Methodist Church
Cedar Point FCU	Church	Steve Clearly
Ashton Osborne	Bob Robertson	Dave Fondelier
Chesapeake Biological Laboratory	Joe Jaeger	James Jackson
Chris Turner	Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic	Tom Miller
Cove Point LNG	Church	St John Vianney Catholic Church
Susie Lopez	Randy Kozik	Kim Stack
DSC Corp	Tom Reinecker	St. Nicholas Lutheran Church
Heather Woodward	Knights of Columbus Council #9258	Keith Williams
Emerging Leaders: Leadership	Vince Maldonado	
Southern Maryland Class of 2024	Joe Suarez-Murias	
Mackenzie Orange	Mount Olive UMC	
Health Conor	Michael Lovin	
Emmanuel UMC	Bobby Adams	
Jeff Ireland		

**Thank You Christmas in April*Calvert County Partners: Volunteers, Businesses, Churches,
Organizations and Individuals, who donated money, material, time and skills for the 2025 work year.**

A C Construction
A H Hatcher
Adams Carpentry
America's Charity
Amy Drury
BHE GT7S
Bin There Dump That
Bob and Janet Robertson
Bonnie Smithers
Brooks Family
Brother Johnsons Septic
Calvert Association of Educational
Support Staff
Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center
Calvert County Democratic Women's
Club
Calvert County Department of
Community Resources
Calvert County Department of Public
Works
Calvert County Department of Solid
Waste
Calvert County Government
Calvert County Lions Club
Calvert County Office on Aging
Calvert County Register of Wills
Calvert County Times
Calvert Grace Community Church
Calvert Health Medical Center ED
Calvert Middle School National
Honor Society
Calvert Retired School Personnel
Cave to Castle Remodeling
Cedar Point Federal Credit Union
Chaney Cares Foundation
Charlie Dillard Trash Removal
Service
Chesapeake Biological Laboratory
Christa Conant
Christ Church
Christ Episcopal Church
Cleary Construction
Clint and Tresa Ashley
Constellation Energy

Constellation Energy Finance
Department
Constellation Energy Militaries
Actively Connected (CMAC)
Cove Point LNG
Danny's Floor Service
Dean Home Supply and Service
Company
Debi Jagodzinski
DJM HVAC
Dream Weaver Café and Catering
DSC Corporation
Friendship Community Baptist Church
Friendship United Methodist Church
God's Bounty
Glen and Ann Wolfgang
Handyman Construction LLC
Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian
Church
HELP Association
Home Builders Care Fund
Huntingtown High School STORM
Team
Huntingtown United Methodist
Church
Huntingtown United Methodist
Church Youth Group
Jerry Dalrymple Electric
Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic
Church
Joseph Thompson
Judy Zinneman
K and V Foundation
Knights of Columbus #9258
Lexington Park Dentistry
Liberty Title
Linda Herdeman
Maryland Affordable Housing Trust
Mar-Ber Development Group
Marget McCarthy
Mill Creek Middle School Student
Government Association and Junior
National Honor Society
Mike and Debra Cox

Mt. Olive United Methodist Men's
Committee
Natalie Moore Real Estate
New Life Church
Our Lady Star of the Sea
Pathway Wealth Partners LLC
Patuxent Habitat for Humanity
Patuxent Wine and Spirits
Pat Pringle
Patuxent High School National Honor
Society
Patuxent Wine and Spirits
Paul Hayden & Sons Plumbing
Philip Klohr
R & H Lawn Care LLC
Rhoades Gutter
Richard and Ellen Berry
Richard Blasy
Robert Marino
Russell Bowie
Scaggs Site Development
Sean McGowen CPA
SMECO
SMILE Ecumenical Services, Inc.
Smithville United Methodist Church
Sneade's ACE Home Center
Southern Maryland Association of
Realtors
Southern Maryland Leadership Class
2024
Southern Maryland Leadership Class
2025
Southern MD News
St John Vianney Catholic Church
St. Nicholas Lutheran Church
Systems Application and
Technologies
The Baynet
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
US Vinyl Corporation
Walls Plumbing
Wood Duck Renovations
W.R.A Storage Systems

Tentative Calendar 2025-2026

For more details, see website www.christmasinaprilcalvertcounty.org.

September 2025

September 30: Applications due for the 2025 Christmas in April year.

October 2025

House Selection Committee will visit the homes of applicants.

November 2025

The Board tentatively approves houses to be repaired for 2026.

December 2025

House captains are assigned to recommended houses. Christmas in April will work on projects to celebrate Giving Tuesday.

January 2026

Homeowners will begin to be notified of application decisions.

January/February 2026

House captains visit approved homes, determine work scope, and develop supply list. Christmas in April will work on a project in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday.

March 2026

Preparations continue for the Annual Workday

April 2026

April 25: Annual Workday

May 2026

Follow up contacts are made.

Throughout the year, donations are encouraged, sponsors and volunteers are recruited, applications are accepted, grants are applied for, emergency home repairs are completed, and the work continues to ensure low-income homeowners will live in warmth, safety, and independence.



The following gives a summary of the improvements made on each home and project in 2025.

"All of these wonderful people came in and did all of this for me. It is such a blessing."

"If it wasn't for this ramp, I do not know what I would do."

"The furnace is doing better than good. It's working!"

"The old sliding door was rotten and leaky which was bad for my asthma. This is a blessing."

"They are such spiritual Christian people, like angels without wings."

Quotes from 2025 recipients.

House # 1 Keith Williams of St. Nicholas Lutheran Church led this small group of volunteers to replace the AC unit for this senior widow. The team resourced, removed, and replaced the AC unit, restoring temperature control to the home. The homeowner sent a card to express her thanks, writing: *"The house captain even went the extra mile and shared his portable AC unit to help along the way. It feels so good to know there are people out here with concerns for others. With all my heart – I say thank you again for the wonderful work."* This project was sponsored by the HELP Association and the K & V Foundation.



House # 2 Stephen Vallandingham and Chelsea Guy led this team of volunteers from CMAC (Constellation Energy Military Actively Connected) to make needed repairs to a senior widow's home. The team started off by demolishing the existing decking, including the handrails, stairs, and storm door, and then methodically replaced each component. They worked in a very efficient manner, working on each task in parallel.

The homeowner is most grateful for this work. *"This was originally done for my son who is now deceased but the deck has been a lifesaver for me. It helps me tremendously as I bring my groceries in and to do so many things. If it wasn't for this ramp, I do not know*

what I would do. I can take my walker and roll right up. I have COPD and get so out of breath. Before, I had to lift my walker up and down the steps. I don't think Christmas in April gets thanked enough for what you do." Lunch for this project was supplied by Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center. The project was sponsored by Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center, Patuxent Habitat for Humanity, and BHE GT&S (Cove Point). Systems Application and Technologies, Sneade's Ace Home Center, and Brothers Johnson Septic Service also supported this project.

House # 3 John Yoe led this team from Christ Episcopal Church. The team found and purchased a replacement sliding glass door and transported it to the home. The existing French door was removed. The threshold subfloor was replaced and the new door was installed, weatherproofed, and trimmed out. The homeowner said, *"The old sliding door was rotten and leaky which was bad for my asthma. This is a blessing."* This home was sponsored by Christ Episcopal Church.

House # 4 Bob Robertson, from Huntingtown United Methodist Church, served as house captain and coordinated all aspects of this work with Handyman Construction LLC to replace a leaking roof for this elderly couple. *"The roof was leaking in the utility room and that has been resolved,"* expressed this satisfied homeowner. This home was sponsored by the HELP Association and the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust (MAHT).

House # 5 Christmas in April Calvert County quickly came to the aid of a county family in desperate need of a wheelchair ramp. One family member's illness required her to be carried in and out of the home. The situation was extremely unsafe! Two Christmas in April crews took care of the problem. On October 11, 2024, a group from the Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center built the ramp's structure which included over 30 feet of ramp as

well as a 5' x 10' platform. (The crew's auger was not functioning properly so they were forced to do a lot of post hole digging manually – tough work given how hard the ground was!) The following week, adults and youth from Huntingtown United Methodist Church added decking to the ramp and completed the railings. The homeowner was delighted with the final product and commented numerous times on the speed and quality of both crews' work. Most importantly, his wife could now safely get in and out of the house. She said, *"I'm so happy with it that I can't thank them enough."*

At a later date, Randy Kozik led a team of volunteers from Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church and Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center that cut, split, and removed approximately three cords of white oak firewood. The wood was transported to house # 30 to be burned as the primary heat source for the family. The homeowners feel more secure now that this tree is no longer hanging over their house.

Additionally, a failed HVAC system was replaced with the material outsourced and Keith Williams and team performing the labor. This entire project was sponsored by the HELP Association and the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust.

House # 6 Keith Williams, of St. Nicholas Lutheran Church, served as the house captain for this older homeowner whose furnace was condemned and deemed a fire hazard. He worked with DJM HVAC to replace the existing furnace with a new more efficient unit. This homeowner exclaimed, *"The furnace is doing better than good. It's working!"* The HELP Association and the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust were the sponsors of this project.

House # 7 On September 13, 2024, Christmas in April responded to an emergency request to repair a badly deteriorating ramp on a house owned by a couple in their 80's. Bob Robertson served as house captain. The wife had recently been taken to the hospital and was due to return shortly. The ramp needed to be repaired quickly to facilitate her homecoming. The Christmas in April crew arrived early in the morning, assessed the condition of the fifty-foot combination wood and concrete ramp, and went to work. They replaced the rotted plywood decking (which literally could be stepped through), added non-slip matting, strengthened the existing

railings and added a new section of railing. In short, they made a very unsafe situation much safer for the homeowners. As the homeowner said, *"The ramp is doing swell."* BHE GT&S (Cove Point) and SMILE Ecumenical Ministries sponsored this home.

House # 8 Russell Bowie successfully chaired this project for a couple that were down on their luck and had been without water for three weeks. When a well company was attempting to raise the well pump, it slipped and was stuck at 90'. They were told that they needed a new well. Gary Dalrymple, owner of the Well Doctor, was contacted and he agreed to do the needed work. His company came out and found a way of removing the old well pump that was stuck at over 250' in the ground. They installed a new well pump, wiring and piping and well chlorination. Additionally, the oven couldn't be used because it had a faulty 240-volt line. Christmas in April had the line replaced by Jerry Dalrymple Electric. The homeowners were "very grateful" for these improvements. SMILE Ecumenical Ministries and the HELP Association were the sponsors of this project.



House # 9 Christmas in April Board members, with Russell Bowie and Vada Brooks serving as house captains, worked on this house. The home had a huge water leak which was located in the downstairs toilet. Two isolation valves were replaced in the toilet. The toilet, which was in bad shape, could then be repaired. A water leak in her attic on her fire sprinkler system was also repaired. This work was done with the collaboration of the Calvert County Health Department and the Calvert County Water Company. Sneade's Ace Home Center was the sponsor for this home.

House #10 Arrangements were made by Russell Bowie, house captain, to have water repairs made for this homeowner who received an excessively high water/sewer bill from the county. There was a leak in the water line which was on her property and, therefore, her responsibility. She was very stressed over the possibility of thousands of dollars in expense to her. Walls Plumbing and Heating was contacted and agreed to do the work for Christmas in April for a greatly reduced cost. Her next water bill, after the repairs, was still high as leakage had incurred during the first part of the billing period, Upon request from Christmas in April, she was allowed to pay her normal cost. Her home was checked for leaks, with a dripping faucet being replaced. The homeowner said, *"If it wasn't for you all, I don't know what I would have done. I no longer have my chest pains from stress. I thank God for you all!"* The HELP Association and the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust were sponsors of this home.



House #11 Bob Robertson, of the Christmas in April Board, made the arrangements to outsource the roof repair for the back porch as the roof was torn from the house when a tree fell on it. The homeowner is a cancer survivor and lives in the house with her two children and her father. After this improvement, the homeowner

exclaimed, *"I am so happy with the work I appreciate it so much."* This project was sponsored by the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust and SMILE Ecumenical Ministries..

House #12 Christmas in April celebrated Veteran's Day with this project. Twelve highly motivated and skilled volunteers from Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center, Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church, Huntingtown United Methodist Church, and Constellation Energy's Finance Department joined forces to assist a senior United States Air Force Veteran and his wife. The team replaced a ramp, stained a porch and deck, added handrails to the deck, replaced shed doors and installed multiple lighting fixtures. Additionally, numerous electrical hazards were corrected, handrails were added to the basement stairs, stair stringers/stair treads were replaced, and anti-slip material was added to the basement stairs. Each of these tasks added an additional margin of safety for these senior homeowners. Steve Vallandingham, Vada Brooks, and Marshall Pike served as house captains for various parts of the project.

At the conclusion of the project, the homeowners expressed their appreciation for all of the work completed. *"Those guys and girl are a Godsend. They were respectful, happy, and enjoyed laughing. Before, I had to twist the wheelchair and lift it up. Now, we go right in. I had to use a flashlight to go down to the basement. Now, I just flip a switch. I had to climb the basement steps doggy style. The steps are now good and I have a railing. I couldn't lock up anything in my shed and now it is secure."*

The team was thrilled to celebrate Veterans Day with this very deserving couple. The project was sponsored by the Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center, Dean Home Center, and A H Hatcher. Lunch was sponsored by the Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center.

House #13 On December 12, a low-income Calvert County homeowner got an early Christmas present – a new roof. Bob Robertson served as coordinator of this project. Serious leaks in the roof prompted Christmas in April to oversee an emergency replacement. The job was contracted out to HMC Roofing and Home Improvement, a valued, local, longtime partner. They quickly completed the project much to the delight of the

homeowner. She expressed her appreciation by saying, *"I had lots of leaks in the house. The roof is fabulous. No more leaks now. The guys that came here to do the roof were wonderful. I am very appreciative."* Dean Home Supply and Service Company helped to defray the costs by donating shingles. Many thanks to both of these organizations. This home was sponsored by the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust and Dean Home Supply.

House # 14 What an amazing day for this team from the Calvert County Board of Education with Stacy Tayman serving as house captain. Their homeowner reported having difficulty navigating the stairs on her deck, getting herself in and out of the bathtub, and needing a new kitchen sink. After researching ADA products for use in the bathroom, the team selected "The Wonder Pole." This floor to ceiling pole has a handle that can be directed in different positions that will allow the homeowner to not only get in and out of the tub, it can be positioned to assist with toilet use. A beautiful stainless-steel sink with a new faucet and sprayer were installed. The team built a 40' ramp from the front door and around an existing deck with a landing at the driveway. Crew members cleaned the gutters, raked leaves, trimmed bushes, dug out a stump, added organic matter to garden beds, planted perennials in the existing garden, created two planters for the deck, and cleaned and repurposed garden decorations. *"Everything is wonderful," exclaimed the homeowner. "I am satisfied."* The homeowner is so pleased with the ramp that she uses it to do some daily exercises. This home was sponsored by the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust and SMILE Ecumenical Ministries..

House # 15 Two teams worked on this home at different times. First, Chris Turner led a team from the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory to assist a senior homeowner with some health challenges. The crew replaced a sliding glass door, a leaking commode with an ADA comfort height model, the existing flooring, vanity, sink, and faucet. In the second bathroom, the commode was rebuilt, the bathtub drain was restored, and a leaky faucet was replaced. Multiple drywall repairs were made throughout the home. A faulty light switch was replaced and two flooring transition strips were installed to allow for safe travel. Additionally, the team removed a year's worth of leaves and limbs throughout the yard. The homeowner was excited about

these many improvements. She is glad she can now lock all of the doors to her house, that a potential fire hazard has been eliminated, that her bathrooms now work well for her, and for the beautiful flooring that she did not expect.

The second team, from Mt. Olive United Methodist Men's Committee was directed by Michael Loving, house captain. They replaced two windows in the front of the house. The team needed additional supplies as the windows were larger than the replacement. Volunteers Bobby Adams and Corey Johnson had to get 2 x 4's to add for fitting the new windows. It was a temporary setback and slowed the team down, but the job was completed. The homeowner was really happy with the finished product and said she was especially pleased because she was now able to open the windows.

The homeowner was very expressive in giving thanks for all of this work completed for her. *"This gives me encouragement. All of these wonderful people came in and did all of this for me. It is such a blessing. I appreciate them for taking their time and energy to do this. You all have been absolutely wonderful and I am grateful for everything that was done."* This project was sponsored by the HELP Association and BHE GT&S.



House # 16 Vince Maldonado and Joe Suarez-Murias were house captains for this team from the Knights of Columbus Our Lady Star of the Sea. which worked on this home for a widow in her 70s, her daughter with a disability and her two grandchildren. The group first met for coffee and donuts, reviewed the work scope, had a safety discussion, had prayer, and then commenced work. They leveled up and supported the existing front

ramp for easier access to the home. Approximately 64 square feet of ceiling drywall was removed from a bedroom and this was replaced, taped, and blocked. Subflooring was removed from a bathroom which had been damaged by water, the framing below was reinforced, and a new piece of sub flooring was installed, flashing patched and new flooring installed. Around the toilet, a wood base was installed and the perimeter caulked. Two trailers were filled with miscellaneous items from around the yard, such as couches, lawn mowers, and more and were taken to the landfill. This group “had a great team with a happy client.”

The homeowner’s daughter gave her thanks, saying *“The family is very well pleased with all of these improvements. The bedroom ceiling had sunk 3 inches. The ceiling work is fine. The bathroom work was really needed! We had a snake come in there last year. My mother is well satisfied.”* This home was sponsored by the HELP Association and SMILE Ecumenical Ministries..



House # 17 Steve and Vada Brooks led the Brooks family team. The team removed the existing bathtub, toilet, and vanity for this homeowner with a disability.

After making needed plumbing, electrical, and drywall repairs, the team installed a walk-in shower, ADA compliant commode, and new vanity sink. The homeowner expressed great gratitude and appreciation to the team as her existing bathtub configuration had become a safety challenge. These improvements were sponsored by Sneade’s Ace Home Center and Pathway Investments.

House # 18 This homeowner had applied for Christmas in April assistance because one whole side of her house did not have lights and she was concerned that this was a potential fire hazard. Russell Bowie and Randy Kozik from the Christmas in April Board of Directors repaired the electrical problem by replacing the bad breaker. The homeowner was much relieved and said, *“The volunteers were so polite and so nice. I appreciate them coming in and doing this.”* This project was sponsored by Sneade’s Ace Home Center.

House # 19 This team from Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church, with AC Construction providing support, was led by Beth and Larry Carter as they made improvements to the two entrances of this home. This was done to increase the safety of the homeowner as she enters and exits the house. On the side deck, they replaced a deck support and poured a footer. They removed the railings, down to the supports and then ran new railings and spindles around the deck and down the stairs. There were roughly 100 spindles that were cut to size and installed. On the front deck, a rotten 6’ x 6’ deck and stairs were removed. Concrete footers were poured, then new posts and frame were installed. The spindles were added last. The homeowner now has a completely new, 8’ x 8’ porch on the front of her house. The homeowner commented, *“They were the greatest group of people and I enjoyed working with them. Thank you so much for everything.”* This home was sponsored by the Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church.

House # 20 A woman in her 90’s did not have a way to get safely in and out of her home. This would be a particularly big problem if she needed to leave the house in an emergency. Crews from Huntingtown United Methodist Church, with Joe Jaeger as house captain, and Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center solved the problem. They constructed a two-section ramp consisting of a platform at one of the home’s entrances and a ramp to

the ground. The owner was very pleased and, most importantly, is much safer! Her daughter is now glad to be able to take her mother out in a wheelchair. According to her, *"The ramp is beautiful! We no longer have to worry about the steps. They did a great job."* This home was sponsored by Pathway Investments and Cedar Point Federal Credit Union.

House # 21 New Life Church pulled together a big group – over twenty people – who formed three teams to tackle projects at three separate homes. They succeeded in spectacular fashion – leaving happy homeowner at each site. At this home, they installed a walk-in shower with grab rails, a toilet, and a storm door. This greatly assisted the homeowner who had mobility issues. He commented that the team did *"beautiful work."* The Maryland Affordable Housing Trust sponsored this project.



House # 22 Natalie Moore, house captain, and her caring team of volunteers from the Southern Maryland Association of Realtors, assisted this 99-year-old homeowner by removing a bee/wasp nest from the house, replacing door sweeps and realigning doors. They scraped, caulked and painted windows and doors, and

cleaned the gutters. Additionally, R and H Lawn Care LLC mowed and trimmed the entire yard. These repairs allow the homeowner to live more comfortably in her home. Her daughter said, *"All is good!"* This home was sponsored by the Southern Maryland Association of Realtors.

House # 23 This spirited 82-year-old homeowner with limited mobility needed several well-deserved safety and security repairs. The team from Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church, with leader Randy Kozik, went to work to install a new GFI outlet on the exterior of the house and deck and then ran new conduit and wiring for motion sensitive lighting at the rear entrance on the deck and a flood light on the driveway and ramp to the house. An existing 12-foot degrading ramp and failing supporting posts were dismantled and replaced with new pressure treated material. The deck and railings were pressure washed and sealed with a preservative. Finally, a twelve foot 2" x 6" top railing was replaced with a new pressure treated railing.

The homeowner was pleased and the house repair team was equally pleased that she could now enter and exit her house safely. This home was sponsored by the HELP Association.

House # 24 The team from Smithville United Methodist Church, with James Jackson as house captain, assisted this 53-year-old mother with additional residents of her son and her 79-year-old mother. Her 46-year-old house is a well maintained, white single-story block house with a brick front. Last year, Christmas in April replaced four steel framed windows with four energy efficient windows resulting in noticeable savings on her electric bill. This year, grant funds from the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust were used to purchase six energy-efficient windows to replace the six remaining steel framed windows.

The team, with the construction and carpentry guidance of Steve and Kyle Cleary (Cleary Construction) removed the six old steel-framed windows, prepared the openings, and then installed, caulked, and trimmed the new windows inside and outside of the house. It was a job well done and much appreciated by the homeowner and family. The homeowner said, *"The volunteers were great!"* This home was sponsored by Smithville United Methodist Church.

House # 25 This project was to install a frame and bathroom door for an elderly female homeowner. Michael Loving chaired this Mt Olive United Methodist Church work team. Installing the bathroom frame and door took one hour. It was noted that new framing and a new front door were needed. The new storm door and front door were ordered and were installed at a later date. The homeowner was most grateful for these improvements, particularly as she did not previously have a bathroom door. She was also thankful for the new gutters and downspouts. She exclaimed, *"Thank the Lord. I appreciate it, I appreciate it!"* This home was sponsored by Sneade's Ace Home Center and SMILE.

House # 26 On April 5, members of the Huntingtown United Methodist Church Youth Group and their adult leaders, with Joe Jaeger serving as house captain, helped a Calvert County woman whose home desperately needed deck repairs. The group replaced the decking on the home's 10' x 12' porch, all of which was badly rotten. Additionally, they replaced portions of the railings which were also rotted. Bottom line – the group made the deck safer and had a good time doing it. The homeowner was very pleased with the results and said, *"I am very happy with it! The boards were really rotten – very weather beaten. It is looking good!"* Also, a big thanks to Charlie Dillard Trash Removal Service which donated their services and hauled away the old lumber. This home was sponsored by K and V Foundation and Pathway Investments.

House # 27 Volunteers from the Calvert County Lions Club, led by Brian Owens, helped this homeowner with improved accessibility to her home and made other improvements. Posts for the ramp were set prior to the workday so that the entire group could be involved with the remainder of the construction on the that day. Despite the threat of rain, the volunteers turned out in force. The joists and most of the decking were completed by lunchtime as well as repairing several drywall cracks in the master bedroom and bathrooms. A first coat of paint was completed in these rooms. After lunch, the crew applied a second coat of paint in each room and completed the deck and railings before leaving around 4 p.m. The next day, the bathroom was painted a final time and the remnants of the old iron railing were removed from the porch. The homeowner praised the

team by saying, *"The group was awesome. They were over the top! I am used to being a giver, not a recipient, but I am so, so grateful!"* This project was sponsored by the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust.

House # 28 Warren Courtney led this skilled team of volunteers from Calvert Grace Church. The crew made needed repairs to this senior homeowner's house which included replacing missing shingles, redecking the existing deck, and cleaning the gutters. The homeowner was appreciative of the work and said, *"The volunteers were really nice!"* This home was sponsored by the Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center.



House # 29 Keith Williams and his crew from St. Nicholas Lutheran Churchde repairs on this mobile home for an older couple. The gutters and soffits were improved and a small roof was installed to prevent rain from coming in the side door. Additionally, the soft floor in the home that had been damaged by water was repaired to make it safe for the homeowners. The homeowners said that *"This has been such a huge blessing. The house captain and team were wonderful."* This project was sponsored by the HELP Association and the K and V Foundation.

House # 30 Funds from the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust and dedicated workers from multiple groups worked for weeks to make this home livable for this older couple. The homeowners had been encouraged to move out and demolish their home. This was not financially feasible for them. Glenn Phelps, of Cave to Castle Remodeling, spearheaded and directed

the many steps of this project. The team started work in late March, moving the existing electrical service from the old section (to later be demolished) of the home to a new section of the home. This was coordinated with BGE and a licensed electrician. Once the electrical service was moved, the teams then prepared to demolish this 14' x 22' section of the home which was falling down and reconstruct two exterior walls.

After the old section of the home was demolished, it was possible to remove, repair, and replace the roof which has been leaking for over seven years. The homeowners had used tarps and plastic to channel the water to buckets that had to be emptied regularly during heavy rain. Tails were added to the rafters and soffit boards were installed. Once the roof was made watertight, work within the home began in earnest. All of the damaged drywall was removed, walls were insulated, a new heat pump and ceiling were installed, and the attic space was insulated. All five upstairs windows were removed and replaced, both exterior doors were replaced, a small porch was constructed to provide a second ingress/egress to the home. The bathroom was updated with the existing tub removed and a walk-in shower installed. An ADA compliant commode, vanity, bathroom fan, lighting, and flooring were installed. All flooring and doors in the upstairs were replaced. All lighting fixtures were replaced and upgraded to LED. Multiple smoke detectors were installed. Finally, the first-floor ceiling was reinforced/braced. The work was completed in July.

The homeowners were extremely grateful, working alongside the Christmas in April volunteers. One of the homeowners said, *"I wake up every morning thinking I can't believe this. My wife and I will do anything we can to help."* Many thanks go to the home sponsors: the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust, Natalie Moore Real Estate, Sneade's Ace Home Center, Cave to Castle Remodeling, and Dean Home Center.

House # 31 Keith Williams of St. Nicholas Lutheran Church served as house captain for this senior homeowner who had had no heat for a long time. The only heat consisted of space heaters in two of the bedrooms. The existing heat pump and oil handler had failed. A new energy efficient system was installed and a leaky supply duct was connected. He did a great job of getting Christmas in April good prices on the materials

and then donated his time to install the units. The homeowner was very happy to have the heat restored.

Additionally, Keith Williams and Randy Kozik led a team of volunteers to complete a second phase of the project. The existing kitchen flooring posed a trip hazard. Sections of the subfloor were patched and then luxury vinyl plank flooring was installed in the kitchen and pantry areas. This home was sponsored by the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust and the HELP Association.



House # 32 New Life Church volunteers, with work coordinated by Randy Morgan, completed an unbelievable amount of work on this home! They replaced three windows that were previously boarded over, replaced an unsafe railing on a deck, and painted the fascia and added a new gutter. And there was more! They replaced a clogged drain, including adding 30 feet of new pipe, added smoke detectors, trimmed trees, resealed brick on the front landing, and did some grading to improve water flow away from the house. This big crew accomplished big things! The owner was extremely happy and offered food and drinks to the volunteers. The homeowner was most appreciative and offered three replacement windows, which she had purchased but did not fit, to Christmas in April. *"I can't do much for others because of my rheumatism and the arthritis in my hands. I can hardly walk. This is just something I want to do and return the favor. I believe in God and I try to help anyone I can. My God, you did a wonderful job! Thank you."* This home was sponsored by the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust and the HELP Association.

House # 33 Volunteers from Friendship United Methodist Church, with Chuck Muller as house captain, helped out these homeowners, a husband and his wife, who is 65 years old with mobility issues. She could not safely use the irregular steps of the front concrete porch that was settling away from this 40-year-old split foyer. Instead of a 50-foot ramp switch backing across two-thirds of the backyard, or the ramp crisscrossing their steep front yard, the homeowners and team agreed to a porch built with railings over the existing concrete porch.

This Church team of sixteen members worked two days on the front porch, stairs, railings, and the additional renovations to the rear deck as noted below:

- Concrete footings were poured and set and supporting posts were attached
- A 7' x 8' porch was framed out along the posts, attached to the house, and covered with decking material
- 2" x 6" railings and 48" wide, shallow, stairs were constructed and attached to the porch that landed across the concrete walkway
- An additional 19' of railings were installed to support her walk to the walkway
- All decking was pried up, discarded, and replaced with pressure treated material
- All the steps on the twelve descending stairs were replaced with pressure-treated material.

A delicious buffet was prepared and served by Friendship Church's outstanding chefs!

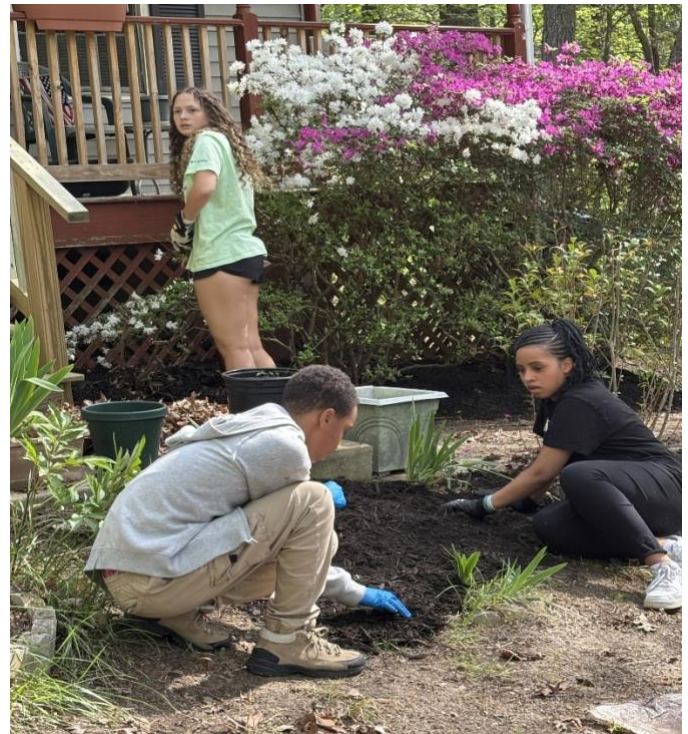
The husband said that the previous steps were way too steep for his wife. *"We are really pleased with the work they did and can't thank the volunteers enough."* This project was sponsored by Friendship United Methodist Church.

House # 34 The homeowner, a 64-year-old resident, occupies a split foyer house with brick and aluminum siding and a walkout basement. The property required siding and deck maintenance, drywall repairs, deck and stair repairs, and replacement of three broken windows. A six-member team from Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church, with house captain Randy Kozik, completed the following repairs:

- Cleaned the mildew and stains from the aluminum siding on the house's sides and back.
- Replaced 60 feet of deck and stair railings; reinforced 12 deck steps.
- Fixed loose boards, then cleaned and treated the 12' x 20' deck and stairs with preservative.

- Swapped three cracked and damaged metal windows for vinyl energy-efficient ones.
- Installed and finished a 3' x 4' basement ceiling section for furnace flue clearance after soot-damaged area was removed

The homeowner is thankful she can now safely sit on her deck and watch deer through her new windows. She has improved her home with help from Christmas in April, the HELP Association, and A H Hatcher and feels blessed with the upgrades.



House # 35 A wonderful crew from Friendship Community Baptist Church, guided by Rob Waltman, house captain, helped out a widow in need of a variety of home repairs. To make the home safer, they added an interior railing and repaired electrical outlets. They also improved security by replacing a sliding glass door lock set and installing a security bar. And that's not all! They fixed a toilet and storm door, cleaned gutters, and did some tree trimming! Needless to say, the homeowner was delighted with the crew's work! The homeowner exclaimed, *"Their work was beautiful. They are all the sweetest people. We all became family. When I get nice people in my life, I keep them."* This home was sponsored by Friendship Community Baptist Church.

House # 36 John and Cindy Yoe led this team of experienced volunteers from the Calvert County Democratic Women's Club. The team made needed

repairs to this senior lady's home over multiple days. The repairs included, but were not limited to, repairing the front door jamb, framing up the existing storm door, replacing the rear storm door, reshaping and mulching multiple flower beds, and replacing a back yard fence gate. The homeowner was both thrilled and excited with the team's efforts and enthusiasm. She wanted to make sure that Christmas in April knows how fabulous this team is and that she greatly, greatly appreciates what they did. She said, *"I have been in this house for 22 years and just can't keep up with everything like I used to be able to do. The volunteers are so sweet to give so much even when they have full time jobs."* The team's lunch was sponsored by Dream Weaver's Café and the project was sponsored by the HELP Association and the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust.



House # 37 Volunteers from DCS Corporation, led by house captain Heather Woodward, made numerous repairs and improvements for this homeowner in her 70s. Inside the home, three baseboard heaters were installed, the shower head was replaced, the damaged screen door was repaired, and safety issues were resolved by the replacement of an electrical outlet in the living room. Outside, the exterior of the home, the sidewalk, and the back deck were all power washed. The crawl space door was painted. Additionally, the garden was given a face lift by reworking existing plants and adding new ones, including front stoop flowers, adding landscaping stone, and refreshing mulch. The homeowner was very pleased with the results and said,

"Everything went well!" This home was sponsored by the DCS Corporation.

House # 38 This single mother and her three children received assistance from teams from Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church with Randy Kozik as co-house captain and Cave to Castle Remodeling with Glenn Phelps as co-house captain. This work was done immediately before and after Christmas. Damaged drywall was removed, replaced, and painted. Bedroom doors were installed or replaced as needed. The daughter had not had a bedroom door for over a year prior to this. A damaged exterior door was replaced. Electrical repairs and up-to-date smoke detectors and CO detectors have improved safety in the home. The homeowner is extremely pleased with these improvements made for her family. This home was sponsored by the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust and Cave to Castle Remodeling.

House # 39 Keith Williams, of St. Nicholas Lutheran Church, performed needed repairs on this homeowner's furnace by replacing a failed circuit board. This failure forced the homeowner to rely on multiple portable space heaters for heat to his home. Once the board was replaced, the heating system was returned to service, improving safety and energy efficiency within the home. The homeowner expressed his appreciation by saying, *"Thank you, thank you so much!"* This home was sponsored by the HELP Association and the K and V Foundation.

House # 40 Calvert Health volunteers, with Amanda Foster as house captain, did a major clean-up of the yard for this widow and her child. They cut down overgrown brush, pruned trees, raked leaves, and gathered large limbs. Other items were also removed from the yard and her deck and shed were organized. On the inside, the team was able to replace the laundry room flooring that had been damaged by the water heater leak. They attempted to remove shelving in the playroom but it would have damaged the drywall. This team really enjoyed helping and had a lot of fun and laughter. The homeowner was very pleased with their work. This project was sponsored by the Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center.

Huse # 41 Ashton Osborne led this team of dynamic volunteers from Cedar Point Credit Union. The team's

project included drywall repair throughout the house, moving furniture, and painting the living room and kitchen. The homeowner was very excited and appreciative for all the help provided by this group. She said, *"They did a wonderful job! I am very, very pleased!"* This house and lunch were sponsored by Cedar Point Federal Credit Union. Support was also provided by the Dean Home Center.

House # 42 Kim Stack and Adrienne Funchion led this very large multi-generational team, which included 13 students, from St. John Vianney Catholic Church. This team worked on multiple days on this senior widow's home, making needed repairs, improving energy efficiency and providing general beatification. Due to health issues, the homeowner had lost her strength to do projects around the home. The work completed included, but was not limited to:

- Painting the master bedroom
- Removing and replacing 12 leaking windows and sets of shutters
- Repainting and caulking the front door
- Replacing the front and rear door lock sets
- Painting 10 pieces of lawn furniture and two sections of split rail fence
- Cleaning and mulching a 500 square foot flower bed
- Installing a drain system at the back door
- Removing 3 dead trees
- Replacing 3 smoke detectors
- Replacing 2 outside lights
- Hauling away multiple truckloads of yard items

Comments from the homeowner included, *"Everyone was so kind and nice. They seemed to know what I needed. The sweet teenagers worked together with their parents and never complained. This was like the best day I have had in a long, long time."* This home was sponsored by the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust, SMILE Ecumenical Ministries, and Pathway Investments.

House # 43 Keith Williams of St. Nicholas Lutheran Church led this project to replace about 500 square feet of flooring for this single widow of a United States Army Veteran. The team moved all furnishings and installed Luxury Vinyl Plank flooring and the required trim. The homeowner was overwhelmed, saying, *"I am so thankful for the floors! I wish my husband could be here to see this. All I can do is say thank you."* Thanks

go to Danny's Floor Service and sponsors K and V Foundation and the HELP Association.



House # 44 Chuck Muller led this team from Friendship United Methodist Church to help this senior widow homeowner. Three projects were completed to make the home safer and more weatherproof for the owner. The stairs on the side entrance to the home were replaced. The handrail of the front porch was removed and replaced. The roof louvers on the peak of the side of the home were replaced. The homeowner highly praised the volunteers by saying, *"They are such spiritual Christian people, like angels without wings. They did marvelous work that was not just thrown together but was well planned. God has shown his blessing."* This house was sponsored by the HELP Association, the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust, and Sneade's Ace Home Center.

House # 45 Home repairs for this couple in their seventies were completed by a team from Friendship United Methodist Church with Chuck Muller serving as house captain. This crew arrived at 9 a.m. and went to work cleaning the gutters, re-securing them where needed, and also cleaning the down spouts. A light fixture over the kitchen sink was replaced. Several boards on the back porch had rotted, creating a fall hazard for the owners. These boards were replaced. The

homeowners were definitely enthusiastic about the improvements and the volunteers saying, *"They were excellent. They did things I didn't even expect them to do."* This home was sponsored by Friendship United Methodist Church.



House # 46 Tom Jones and Monty Parks, house captain, and numerous volunteers from Calvert County Government, made many home improvements for this homeowner. Beginning with electrical and energy saving repairs, the electrical panel was inspected, exterior lights were replaced on the deck and at the front door, and new LED lights were installed throughout the house. The HVAC HP unit was serviced. Bathroom updates included replacing the powder room vanity, faucet, and countertop and also improving the upstairs hall bath vent fan. The entrance and storm doors were replaced and a hole was repaired in the wall by the sliding glass door. Ceiling tile was replaced in the lower level and the carpet was replaced on both sets of stairs, increasing safety for the homeowner. As a final touch, a new set of house numbers was installed. According to the homeowner, *"The work was fantastic and all of the*

volunteers were very, very, nice." This home was sponsored by the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust.

House # 47 Ben Keys and Jennifer Murphy led this team from Mill Creek Middle School Student Government Association and the National Junior Honor Society. The team recovered a senior lady's yard by removing unwanted treasurers, trimming trees, raking years of leaves, and then reshaping and mulching flower beds. A section of front gutter/fascia/soffit was repaired or replaced, as needed, by Rhodes Gutter. Handyman Construction replaced three sheets of sheathing on the front roof and replaced shingles. The homeowner praised the volunteers, saying, *"I am very blessed. You have no idea how long I have been praying for this to happen. The kids did an excellent job and took their duties very responsibly. I loved the people and their personalities."*

This home was sponsored by BHE GT&S Cove Point and SMILE Ecumenical Ministries..

House # 48 New Life Church volunteers, under the direction of Randy Morgan, did a super job for this homeowner on a wide variety of projects. On the inside of the home, they repaired drywall in the bedroom and dining room as well as installing smoke alarms. Outside, they repaired a deck and railings, repaired a chain-link fence, did yard cleanup, and fixed a spigot. The owner was just delighted and couldn't thank the team enough. She said, *"My husband died just 2 ½ years ago and this has perked me up."* This house was sponsored by the HELP Association and Pathway Investments.

House # 49 Michael Loving and his volunteers from the Mt. Olive United Methodist Church's Men's Committee worked on this project which was to install two storm doors and to repair deck boards, steps, and deck handrails. The team assisted skilled craftsmen with debris clean up, learning new skills on tool usage. The crew had to move furniture off the deck while repairs were being completed. Two teams of three men each worked on the doors and trim was painted around the back door. Trash was removed from behind the homeowner's shed. The homeowner was delighted with these improvements. This home was sponsored by the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust.

House # 50 Tom Jones led this team of volunteers from Calvert County Government to make outside improvements for this senior homeowner. She had tall trees in her front yard and was afraid of them falling every time it stormed. The volunteers cut down five trees and she is so grateful to now feel safe when there are storms. Gutters were put on two sides of the house and downspouts were added to the front. Additionally, the septic tank was cleaned. The homeowner praised the volunteers *“who were so nice”* and enabled her to now feel secure in her home. This home was sponsored by the HELP Association.

House # 51 A Calvert County homeowner was in dire need of a partial roof replacement. When it rained, he needed to catch leaking water in a bucket inside his home. Christmas in April, through Steve Sanders, contracted with Handyman Construction to repair the damage using shingles donated by Dean Home Supply and other materials donated by Sneade’s Ace Home Center. As has come to be expected, HMC did a wonderful job and the homeowner was extremely grateful! Christmas in April is fortunate to be able to have terrific community partners like Dean’s, Ace, and HMC. *“This has been like a nightmare and Christmas in April came through,”* expressed the homeowner. This project was also supported by SMILE Ecumenical Ministries and Patuxent Habitat for Humanity.

House # 52 Steve and Vada Brooks led this team from the Brooks family to remove an existing external chimney which was compromising the insurability of the home. After the chimney was demolished and hauled away, the team repaired the roof, fascia, and soffit. The crew then replaced a ten foot section of masonry siding and painted all repaired areas. The homeowner said that everything worked out well and that the insurance was satisfied with the work. This project was sponsored by Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center and Austin Benton (A C Custom Construction).

House # 53 In early May, a group organized by Emanuel United Methodist Church, guided by Jeff Ireland, repaired a ramp that posed significant safety problems to the home’s elderly couple. The ramp was the primary entrance to the home but its decking and railings were rotted and literally falling apart. The team removed all the decking and railings and reinforced the underlying frame. They then added new deck boards to

the ramp and rebuilt the railings so that they were strong and secure. The homeowners were a lovely, kind couple who provided homemade snacks for the team. One of the homeowners described what Christmas in April meant to him this way, *“In this world, there are people that still have the heart and love for others. Words cannot explain how much it is appreciated.”* It was truly a wonderful experience for both the team and the homeowners. This home was sponsored by the HELP Association and Austin Benton (A C Custom Construction).



House # 54 Susie Lopez organized this team of volunteers from BHE GT&S Cove Point to assist a senior widow. The team replaced two sheets of drywall in the downstairs bathroom which had previously been removed due to multiple plumbing leaks which had been corrected. The team then removed and replaced a leaking toilet, installing a new comfort height commode.

A separate team from Calvert Grace Church cleaned up the entire yard area, removing multiple years of leaves and fallen tree limbs. The homeowner said, *“I could not be happier. My fellows are so good, so wonderful! They are the nicest group of people. Thanks to everybody.”*

This house was sponsored by BHE GT&S Cove Point LNG plant.



Project # 60 Christmas in April supported the HELP Association with labor for their all-volunteer thrift store which dedicates their profits to other Calvert County nonprofit organizations. The team of Christmas in April volunteers from Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church constructed three 8' portable A-frame traffic barriers for use in their busy parking lot. Several weeks later, the team returned to build needed storage shelves underneath several 8' worktables. In December, a Christmas in April team of board members returned to help with moving all of the Christmas donations stored in the basement during the year to the upstairs store and to the outside awning area for the highly successful Annual Sunday Christmas Sale.

Project # 62 Nineteen unique volunteers from Christmas in April Calvert County worked in excess of 350 hours to assist Patuxent Habitat for Humanity in completing a new home build for a low-income family. Christmas in April provided labor but not funding for this project. Habitat has supplied Christmas in April with materials over a number of years. The team worked sixteen

individual dates from mid-October until early January to complete the following work:

- Insulate entire household
- Install eight interior doors
- Paint the entire house
- Trim out closets
- Install window blinds
- Install two vanities/bathrooms
- Install all trim with home
- Install two storm doors
- Install mailbox
- Move in and install all appliances

Constellation Militaries Actively Connected (CMAC) provided sponsorship to purchase and install household trim.

Project # 64 Christmas in April spruced up the East John Youth Community Center in Lusby this year. Members from the Patuxent High School National Honor Society, the family members, and advisors gathered on Sunday, April 27, to complete many improvements around the facility. One group worked on their Peace Garden, hauling out stone and dirt to make room for a fresh layer of mulch. Another group worked away at the rotten porch, removing the rotten deck boards, and installing new decking, while another team made needed repairs to the facilities' wheelchair accessible ramp. A third group scrapped the old paint off of picnic tables and pavilion columns, applied new vibrant coats of paint to them, and stained four benches for the Peace Garden.

Rhoades Gutter replaced a 50" section of gutter on the outside learning. The Chaney Cares Foundation supplied 60 tons of recycled concrete to help improve the driveway. SMECO supported the removal of a dead oak tree bordering the Driveway. Dean Home Center supplied all paint used on the project. A H Hatcher supplied 6 yards of hardwood mulch in support of the restoration of the Peace Garden and BHE GT&S Cove Point LNG Plant sponsored the lunch enjoyed by the entire team.

After all the team's efforts with the investment of 277 person hours of labor, the youth center looked amazing and was ready for the upcoming summer season.



*Christmas in April*Calvert County, Inc. A United Way Member Agency*

P.O. Box 2761
Prince Frederick, MD 20678
Telephone: (410)535-9044
www.christmasinaprilcalvertcounty.org

Yes! I (We) would like to volunteer. Please contact me at:

I would like to donate the following material:

Please contact me at: _____

Please remember us during the annual United Way campaign code : 44840; or Maryland Charity Campaign code 4919.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

*Christmas in April*Calvert County, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions may be tax deductible. Consult with your tax adviser. Copies of the current financial statement are available on request by writing to or calling Christmas in April*Calvert County, Inc., P.O. Box 2761, Prince Frederick, MD 20678, and Telephone: 410-535-9044. For the cost of copies and postage, documents and information submitted under this title are available from the Secretary of State.*



Scan to donate

Preparations Take Place Year Round for the April Workday

Applications are accepted year round with a deadline of September 30 for the following work year. Applications may be found in the churches, the senior centers, the libraries, and with a number of non-profit organizations. Applications may be submitted online or may be requested by calling 410-535-9044. The application can be submitted by the homeowner or a family member, a neighbor, or by an organization with the consent of the homeowner. All of the legal homeowners must live in their house. All work and materials are supplied free of charge to the selected homeowner.

Once applications are received, the **House Selection Committee** meets and members of the committee, including a skilled labor volunteer, visit application sites in October to determine the homeowner's eligibility and the feasibility of repairs. The committee then makes recommendations to the Board based on the need and Christmas in April's ability to do the work. Homeowners will be informed beginning in January of the decision, once Christmas in April knows it has a House Captain and group to do the work on the approved homes.

Parallel to the application process runs the **recruitment of House Captains and groups to do the work for approved homes**. Many of these House Captains and their organizations have supported Christmas in April for many years. The next step involves lining up House Captains with the different projects. The House Captain then meets with the homeowner to determine the work required. Together they will determine a list of priorities. Based on the priorities, the House Captain then makes up a list of the supplies needed for the workday, which will be ordered by the Logistics Committee and delivered to the home one to two days prior to the workday. Homeowners who need more work done on their house than can be completed in one day are encouraged to reapply the following year.

Christmas in April typically completes projects for Veteran's Day, Giving Tuesday, and Martin Luther King Day, as well as on an emergency basis throughout the year. The big workday when volunteers are actively working on a number of homes is the last Saturday in April. On that day, hundreds of volunteers, providing skilled and unskilled labor, meet at the different work sites. The planned amount of work is based on an eight hour day.

Every House Captain will complete a report on the work done and the number of volunteer hours. A month later, members of the House Selection Committee contact all homeowners to determine if all work promised was completed. **The Board follows up until all promised work is finished.**

Funds for the workday are solicited throughout the year through the writing of grant applications, a mail campaign to the public, and through the generosity of many businesses, organizations, and individuals.

Christmas in April*Calvert County, Inc.

P.O. Box 2761

Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Telephone: 410-535-9044

www.christmasinaprilcalvertcounty.org