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## **Vehicles for Change Expects Almost 1,900 Donated Cars By Year's End**

**HALETHORPE, Md. (December 23, 2008)** – Vehicles for Change, a local nonprofit organization committed to changing lives with donated cars, has helped more than 415 families in 2008. Due to a recent tax law change, Vehicles for Change is the only organization in the Washington metropolitan area that gives someone who donates their car the opportunity to deduct the full Kelley Blue Book value on their tax return.

Vehicles for Change takes cars donated by the public, refurbishes and repairs them, and then sells the vehicles to low-income families at minimal cost. Through this program, families are provided with the means to become self-sufficient and financially independent. By partnering with state programs in Virginia and Maryland, Vehicles for Change reaches the families who are in the most need of a car.

“Vehicles for Change is an organization that positively impacts two groups, those who donate cars and those who receive them,” said Marty Schwartz, president of Vehicles For Change. “By donating your old car to Vehicles for Change, you are rewarded with attractive tax benefits, but you also know that your car is going to help out and positively impact a family in need.”

One hundred percent of cars that pass Vehicles for Change quality standards are awarded to a local family in need. Approximately one in four cars that Vehicles for Change receives is eligible. The other donated cars are either sold at auction or at the Freedom Wheels car lot and generate 30 percent of the operating expenses for Vehicles for Change.

Vehicles for Change always sees an influx of donations at the end of the calendar year. To ensure a tax-write off for 2008, you must donate your car before January 1, 2009. To donate, visit [www.vehiclesforchange.org](http://www.vehiclesforchange.org) and click on the “Donate Your Car Today” tab or call 800.835.3821. A Vehicles for Change tow truck will promptly pick up your vehicle, free of charge, and issue a receipt.

Over the past ten years, Vehicles for Change has positively impacted the lives of more than 8,400 individuals by awarding nearly 3,000 cars to people in need. After purchasing a car from Vehicles for Change, research has shown that 73 percent of recipients obtain a better job and increase their income by an average of \$4,800.

***About Vehicles for Change:** Vehicles for Change, a nonprofit organization committed to selling refurbished cars to low-income families at minimal cost, was founded in 1999 and awarded its first car to a family in Carroll County, Md. To date, Vehicles for Change has impacted the lives of more than 8,400 individuals by awarding nearly 3,000 cars to people in need throughout the state of Virginia and in nine counties in Maryland. For more information about Vehicles for Change, please visit [www.vehiclesforchange.org](http://www.vehiclesforchange.org) or call Marty Schwartz at 410.242.9674.*

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