



Vehicles for Change Holds Event To Fund Car for Baltimore Family

HALETHORPE, Md. (June 5, 2013) – Vehicles for Change (VFC), a Baltimore-based nonprofit, will hold a fundraising event to cover the cost of awarding a vehicle to a local low-income family on Thursday, June 6, 2013. The event will be held at Mad River Bar and Grille on Charles Street in Federal Hill, from 5:30 – 9 pm. Vehicles for Change will charge a \$10 cover at the door, in exchange for food and drink specials. All proceeds will be used to award a 2001 Toyota Corolla to a Baltimore family.

“We’re excited to partner with the community and Mad River Grille to provide a car to a family who is in great need of a vehicle,” said Martin Schwartz, president of Vehicles for Change, “It’s an excellent opportunity for the community to participate in the great work VFC does every day, and change the life of a local family.”

The vehicle recipient, Gene Cooke, was identified through Vehicles for Change’s partnership with Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake. Cooke is a single father of a disabled son, who needs the vehicle to travel to work and take his son to doctor’s appointments. Cooke is currently employed as the Assistant Manager of the Goodwill Industry retail store in Jessup. Since 2006, Vehicles for Change has awarded 83 vehicles to families with financial challenges through their partnership with Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake.

“Goodwill is happy to partner with Vehicles for Change. It allows us to provide an added benefit to some of our employees,” said Lisa Rusyniak, President & CEO of Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake, Inc., “This car will benefit Gene and his family. Vehicles for Change is great to work with and supports our mission of putting people to work.”

Like all Vehicles for Change car recipients, Cooke needed to be working at least 30 hours a week before being eligible to receive a vehicle. Typically, VFC recipients pay an average of \$750 for their vehicle. Vehicles for Change is hoping to raise \$1,200 at the June 6th event, which will cover the cost of Mr. Cooke’s vehicle, AAA membership, title and tags.

VFC accepts donated cars from the public and provides these vehicles to low-income families in Maryland, Virginia and Washington D.C. Since its formation in 1999, Vehicles for Change has impacted the lives of more than 14,700 individuals by awarding more than 4,200 cars to low-

income families in Maryland, Washington and Virginia. There are more than 81,000 low-income households without a car in the Baltimore metro area.

In exchange for \$10 cover, guests at event will receive food and drink specials. Radio station 100.7 The Bay will be checking in from the event and giving away items to guests throughout the night. For more information on the event, visit Vehicles for Change on Facebook at facebook.com/vehiclesforchange.

About Vehicles for Change, Inc.

Vehicles for Change, a nonprofit organization committed to selling refurbished cars to low-income families at minimal cost, was founded in 1999. Vehicles for Change awards cars to worthy families throughout Maryland, Washington and Virginia.

For more information about Vehicles for Change, or to donate a vehicle, visit www.vehiclesforchange.org or call (410) 242-9674.

Follow the organization on Facebook at www.facebook.com/vehiclesforchange and Twitter [@vehicles4change](https://twitter.com/vehicles4change).

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