



## News Release

HALETHORPE, MD. (February 1st, 2023)

**A unique nonprofit is the first of its kind in the nation to utilize virtual reality training in schools and prisons to expand its mission across the United States.**

**Virtual Reality Training for mechanics will help Vehicles for Change expand to 20 locations across the country in the next five years.**

Vehicles for Change will host an extraordinary media event on February 1st, 2023, where instructors will unveil the latest high-tech virtual reality training system, paving the way for VFC to expand across the country. With the help of this technology, Vehicles for Change plans to expand to 20 locations in the next five years.

VFC President and CEO Martin Schwartz describes the training as a win-win for everyone. "Our interns, mostly returning citizens, are trained through our employer-driven paid training program," Schwartz explained, "We place 100 percent of our graduates into employment with a starting salary greater than \$35,000."

National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA): Jonathan Collegio, Executive Director, NADA Foundation, "VFC is the most innovative community-based automotive training organization in America. We look forward to helping expand their programs and virtual training across the country."

AAA Mid-Atlantic: Ragina Ali, Manager, Public & Government Affairs

Maryland and Washington, D.C., "AAA is honored to be a partner with Vehicles for Change as they expand their workforce development efforts nationally. VFC's Virtual Reality Training Program will provide even more young men and women with an opportunity to train in the field of automotive repair."

*Vehicles for Change instructors will demonstrate the virtual reality training and Media Partners will have the opportunity to test out the virtual reality experience (**INTERACTIVE VIDEO OPPORTUNITY**).*

## Virtual Reality Training for Mechanics Event

**February 1, 2023, at 10:00 am**

**Vehicles for Change Full Circle Auto Repair and Training Center**

**2507 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hyattsville, MD 20781**

VFC is unique in that it is the only organization that addresses generational poverty and recidivism while filling a huge void in the auto industry. Virtual reality training will enable VFC to expand and substantially fill the crucial need for trained mechanics.

We will unveil the latest high-tech virtual reality training system, which will pave the path for VFC to expand across the country. We anticipate launching 20 new VFC locations in the next five years.

**Virtual training photos and video available upon request**

###

### **About Vehicles for Change**

Vehicles for Change accepts and repairs donated cars and awards them to pre-qualified families for as little as \$950, enabling low-income families to become self-sufficient. A nonprofit organization, VFC receives 99 percent of its car donations from the public. VFC car donors gain a substantial tax advantage that is unavailable to most other charities. The nonprofit has gained national attention for its unique concept, most recently on the Kelly Clarkson Show. For additional information about Vehicles for Change, <https://www.vehiclesforchange.org/>

### **Media contact:**

Kathleen Cairns, Communications Strategist, The Fallston Group

[Kathleen.Cairns@FallstonGroup.com](mailto:Kathleen.Cairns@FallstonGroup.com)

443-714-4836