



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 4, 2017
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Shelter House Joins Calls for Local Community to “Start Your Activism @ Home”

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Shelter House will join over 600 nonprofits throughout the area on June 8th for a community-wide event hosted by [United Way of the National Capital Area](#) (United Way NCA).

[Do More 24’s “Start Your Activism @ Home”](#), the region’s largest online giving day, will take place during the 24-hour period occurring on June 8th from 12 midnight to 11:59PM and is expected to raise nearly \$2 million. To mark the day, United Way NCA will be hosting a community-wide block party bringing together local groups and community organizations – from step teams to marching bands and pet adoptions – from around the region with an urgent appeal to support services for vulnerable populations.

“Shelter House is looking forward to this year’s Do More 24 movement, bringing other great nonprofits in the community, businesses and individuals together to make a difference,” said Joe Meyer, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer. **“Shelter House focuses on *Changing Lives* – this is an event that will be a hopeful opportunity to continue changing the lives of the homeless families and survivors of domestic violence in our community. As we come together in the DC Metro area, support will continue to grow, making the difference we need to ensure the families we serve have a safe and stable place to call home.”**

Residents throughout our area are more engaged than ever and are looking for ways to make a difference. Given the potential deep budget cuts on Capitol Hill and the skyrocketing demand for services from the region’s vulnerable populations, the metro area nonprofit community is coming together to raise millions for hundreds of nonprofits ranging from animal welfare to workforce readiness, environmental causes, financial stability, education, homelessness and housing, plus many more. Organizers are encouraging local residents to funnel their frustrations and passion over these cuts to our community by giving locally to nonprofits, who will reinvest right here in our area.

“The area’s nonprofit community is bracing for a budget proposal that calls for draconian cuts to services necessary for the working poor to beat the odds and gain access to the middle class,” said Kelly Brinkley, Chief Operating Officer for the United Way of the National Capital Area. **“We are asking our fellow neighbors and residents throughout the community to give back, give locally and ‘Start Your Activism @ Home’ to ensure we support each other. So many of the services**

provided by United Way NCA and our partner agencies are directly impacted and are on the front lines facing severe cuts.”

Do More 24 is June 8, 2017 – www.DOMORE24.org

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About Shelter House, Inc.

Shelter House, Inc. is a community-based, non-profit organization that provides crisis intervention, safe housing and supportive services to homeless families and victims of domestic violence in our community. Our organization was formed in 1981, when several ecumenical groups came together to better serve Fairfax County’s low-income population. Shelter House’s administrative office is located in Reston, Virginia while operating three shelters in Fairfax County. Shelter House has been operating the Patrick Henry Family Shelter in Falls Church since 1985. In 2007, Shelter House was awarded Fairfax County’s contract to operate the Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter in Fairfax. In 2010, Shelter House became the first non-profit to operate Artemis House, Fairfax County’s only 24-hour Domestic Violence Shelter. For more information about Shelter House and how you can get involved, visit www.shelterhouse.org.

About United Way of the National Capital Area

United Way of the National Capital Area fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in the National Capital community. United Way NCA has been improving lives by creating measurable impact in the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, and Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties for more than 40 years. For more information about United Way of the National Capital Area, visit UnitedWayNCA.org.