



# Christmas in April\* Calvert County, Inc.

Volume 2

P.O. Box 2761

Prince Frederick, MD 20678

410-535-9044

April 2010

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*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”* *Margaret Mead*

The Board of Directors thanks the hundreds of volunteers, who worked together on the last Saturday in April 2010 as well as on the United Way Day of Caring in September 2009 to bring real changes to the lives of some of our neediest Calvert County neighbors. These volunteers made it possible for many homeowners to stay independently in their own homes.

In addition to the workday houses described in this newsletter, on September 11, volunteers worked on a house in Lusby, where they replaced badly leaking windows, and rebuilt two sets of steps and a small deck. They installed new storm doors, built a walkway and did a huge amount of yard work: cutting the lawn, trimming hedges, mulching flower beds, and removing a lot of yard debris. This allowed the homeowner a new sense of warmth, safety and comfort.

The work of our volunteers would not be possible without the donations made to Christmas in April by government, businesses, foundations and individuals who contributed to Christmas in April directly or through the United Way Campaign. We also thank those who supplied indirect donations like building and garden supplies and lunches for the volunteers on the workday.

In the newsletter you will find the list of contributors to our workday, description of the workday houses and a calendar for the coming year. For additional dates and events, check our website at [www.christmasinaprilcalvertcounty.org](http://www.christmasinaprilcalvertcounty.org)

**Christmas in April\* Calvert County, Inc. is an affiliate of Rebuilding Together that, in partnership with the community, repairs and improves houses assuring that low-income homeowners live in warmth, safety and independence.**

## House Partners

All Saints Episcopal Church:  
 Frank McPhillips  
**Calvert County Board of Education & Calvert Kiwanis Club:** George Leah  
**Calvert Lighthouse Tabernacle:** Steven Brooks  
**Chesapeake Church:** Chet Taylor  
**Constellation Energy, Bartlett Nuclear, US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Calvert & Patuxent High Schools:** Steve Sanders, Clyde Thomas, Joe Suarez-Murias, Brian Brady & Jim Baker  
**Friendship United Methodist Church:** Ray Wilkerson  
**Howlin Concrete:** Steve Nelson, Joe Penn & Derek Taylor  
**Huntingtown High School:** Marshall Pike  
**Huntingtown United Methodist Church & Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints:** Henry Merryman, Paul Milani  
**Jesus the Divine Word Catholic Church,**  
**Billy Cochrane Roofing & Knights of Columbus:** Larry Clark  
**Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church:** Glenn Phelps  
**Lions Club of Calvert County:** Brian Owens  
**Maisel Electric & Truly Custom Homes:** Jay Maisel  
**Our Lady Star of the Sea Knights of Columbus:** John Brauner  
**Reality Homes:** Howard Brooks  
**St. Nicholas Lutheran Church:** Keith Williams  
**TD Renovations:** Travis Don Bullian  
**Town of North Beach, North Beach Volunteer Fire Department, Earth Tech:** John Hofmann  
**Trinity United Methodist Church:** Tom Latchaw  
**Wilson Properties:** Dan Wilson



**Thank You Christmas in April\*Calvert County Partners: Volunteers, Businesses, Churches,  
Organizations and Individuals, who donated money, material, time and skills  
to Christmas in April\*Calvert County, Inc. for the 2010 workday**

Anonymous	Gill, Carolyn	Quality Built Homes
ABE Plumbing	Green, Jeff	Rausch Funeral Home
Administration on Aging	Grey, Dennis	Randy Rawlings
All Saints Episcopal Church	Griffin's Flooring America	Reality Homes
Bartlett Nuclear, Inc.	Gross & Sons Enterprises	Rebuilding Together
Bateman, John & Jeanne	Hardy, L Jacky	Reeves, Rita
Baumann Electric	Hatchers Supply	Reynolds & Manning, P.A.
Bayside Toyota	HELP Association	Rupard, Emily
Beers, Barbara	Homebuilders Care Foundation	Rymer & Associates, P.A.
Berry, Ellen	Horak, Josef	Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church
Berry, Paul and Doris	Howlin Concrete	Shepherd, Rosemary & Terry
Billy Cochrane Roofing	Representative Steny Hoyer	Sienkiewicz, Joseph
Breitburg, Denise	Huntingtown High School	SMECO
Calvert County Board of County Commissioners	Huntingtown United Methodist Church	Sneade's Ace Home Center
Calvert County Board of Education	Huntingtown Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad	Solomons Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad
Calvert County Bureau of Solid Waste	Insane Wood Creations	Swain, Kirk
Calvert County Health Department	Jacob's Ladder	TD Renovations
Calvert County Office on Aging	James M. Clark, Inc.	The Recorder Newspaper
Calvert County Sheriff's Department	J&J Portable Toilet & Septic System	Town of North Beach
Calvert Elementary School	Jesus the Divine Word Catholic Church	Trinity United Methodist Church
Calvert High School	Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church	Truly Custom Homes
Calvert Independent Newspaper	Kaye, Karen	Twin Shields
Calvert Internal Medicine	Kiwanis Club of Calvert County	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Calvert Lighthouse Tabernacle	Knights of Columbus Council 14775	United Way of Calvert County
Castilla Framing	Lions Club of Calvert County	Walls Plumbing
Cave to Castle Remodeling	MacKinnon, Grace & Robert	Wal*Mart Foundation
Chaney Enterprises	Maisel Electric Heating & Air	Whitesell Pharmacy
Chesapeake Church	Martin-Cornett, Nancy	William H. Lloyd Construction
Chesapeake Church Summit Group	Maryland Bank & Trust	Williams, Keith
Christ Church Parish	McCarthy, Ruth	Wilson, Maria
Christmas in April, PG County	McKenzie Septic & Backhoe (Chris Moore)	Wilson Properties
Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints	Mona, Vincent "Cap"	Wolfgang, Ann
Constellation Energy Group	Montana, Dennis	Zwilsky, Klaus & Safer, Roberta
Curley, Bernard	North Beach Volunteer Fire Dept & Rescue Squad	
Cutlip, William	Northern High School	
Dominion Foundation	Northern High School Varsity Softball Team	
Dunkirk Supply	O'Rourke, Deborah	
Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad	Our Lady Star of the Sea Knights of Columbus Council 9258	
Earth Tech	Margaret Phipps	
Ege, Dennie	Pamela Platt	
Finstad, Theresa M	PNC Bank (Baltimore Community Foundation)	
Fischer, Catherine	Patuxent High School	
Fischer, Craig	Potter, Mary	
Flint, Susan	Prince Frederick Volunteer Rescue Squad	
Friendship United Methodist Church		
Gallagher, Robert		
Garcia Framing		

**The Following Made the  
Lunch for All Volunteers  
Possible**

Bartlett Nuclear, Inc.  
Bowen's Grocery  
Constellation Energy  
Giant Food  
Jesus the Divine Word Catholic Church  
Outback Steak House  
Subway, Solomons

Thanks to all who offered support and encouragement to Christmas in April's 2010 effort. We acknowledge with gratitude those who wish to remain anonymous, or who were inadvertently omitted from the list of supporters.

## House Captains and Co-Captains:

Anonymous  
Jim Baker  
Brian Brady  
John Brauner  
Howard Brooks  
Steven Brooks  
Travis Don Bullion  
Larry Clark  
John Hofmann  
Tom Latchaw  
George Leah  
Jay Maisel  
Frank McPhillips  
Henry Merryman  
Paul Milani  
Steve Nelson  
Brian Owens  
Joe Penn  
Glenn Phelps  
Marshall Pike  
Steve Sanders  
Joe Suarez-Murias  
Chet Taylor  
Derek Taylor  
Clyde Thomas  
Ray Wilkerson  
Keith Williams  
Dan Wilson



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## Calendar 2011

For more details see website

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### *January*

**House Selection:** Houses selected for April workday receive confirmation letter.

**House Captains** assigned to houses

### *February*

House Captains visit homes, determine work, and make supply list.

### *April*

#### **April 30 National Workday**

Christmas in April works on 25 houses in Calvert County

### *June*

Follow-up with homeowners regarding the workday Fundraiser

### *August*

Applications are available at Office on Aging, Libraries, Churches, Social Services, Non-Profit Organizations and on our website:

[www.christmasinaprilcalvertcounty.org](http://www.christmasinaprilcalvertcounty.org)

### *September*

Fundraiser

#### **September 14: United Way Day of Caring:**

Christmas in April works on one house

**September 30:** Applications are due for 2012 workday

### *October*

Home Selection Committees visit the home of applicants.

### *December*

Board approves houses to be repaired on April 2012 workday.

## Volunteers made many improvements on 25 homes in April 2010.

The following information on each home contains a quote from a homeowner or family member and information on the work done.

*"Christmas in April shows the giving nature of human beings."*

[A quote from one of Christmas in April's 2010 recipients.]

### **House # 1:** *"Christmas in April does a beautiful job."*

Joe Penn, a house captain for Howlin Concrete, along with two other volunteers and with support of Castilla's Framing, cut down and replaced the interior bathroom door on this home and also installed trim on an exterior door. These areas were painted and a gutter removed and replaced. The home was made safer with the addition of a smoke detector and more adaptable for the homeowners as they now have a door lever handle. Christmas in April has worked on this home before and the homeowners were very pleased to be selected again for improvements.

### **House # 2:** *"A lady came in and asked if there was anything she could do for me while the men were outside working. That really made me feel good."*

Nine volunteers, under the direction of Joe Penn of Howlin Concrete and with a donation from Garcia's Framing, put in new kitchen cabinets for these homeowners. They thought they were just getting bottom cabinets and were thrilled to also receive top cabinets and a new countertop. A railing was added to the front porch enabling the homeowner and her sister to now be able to use the front steps. A storm door, downspouts and splash blocks, and three receptacles were replaced and a new door latch set was installed. The homeowner says she is so happy she would send thank you notes all over the place.

### **House # 3:** *"I really love Christmas in April. They do wonderful work."*

Howlin Concrete also worked on this home, their third house. This team, led by Derek Taylor, and its twelve volunteers replaced one off-sized wooden door, threshold, weather stripping, and locksets. Two new storm doors were installed. Five windows were completely re-glazed and painted. A window air conditioner was repaired and new closure surround was caulked and painted. A new exterior door and another door were primed and painting completed. A smoke detector and a carbon monoxide detector were added to the home.

### **House # 4:** *"Christmas in April is a wonderful organization. I couldn't believe they had so many volunteers."*

More than twenty Jesus the Good Shepherd volunteers, with Glenn Phelps as house captain, installed seven windows and doors, did electrical and plumbing repairs, and put in drain tile for the down spouts. A new back door, deck, steps, and railing were needed improvements. The homeowner was particularly impressed with the teenagers who did the yard work. "They were all pepped up and laughing and talking but it was not foolishness." The lawn was mowed, flower beds weeded, debris hauled away, and the windows cleaned.

### **House # 5:** *"It was wonderful to have help from Christmas in April and that I could help them in the past."*

Volunteers from the Town of North Beach, the North Beach Volunteer Fire Department, and Earth Tech, Inc., with John Hofmann as house captain, made improvements to this home of a former Christmas in April volunteer. The damaged front porch and steps were removed and replaced. A leaking part of the roof was repaired with new plywood and shingles and the front and north side of the house were painted. Vines and trees growing up against the house were removed. The yard was cleaned up and debris removed.

### **House # 6:** *"Christmas in April shows the giving nature of human beings - people giving of themselves to help others."*

Dan Wilson, house captain, with his team of fifteen volunteers and the support of Wilson Properties and ABE Plumbing, made life much better and healthier for this mother and her children. In the living area, all the old carpet, which contained some mold, was replaced with tile. Drywall work was done and many plumbing improvements were made. Leaking inside and outside pipes were repaired, the sump pump was replaced, and water was diverted away from the house. Two toilets and the kitchen sink were replaced. The front porch was rebuilt and the home was power washed.

**House # 7:** *“I was pleased to get a new stove.”*

Not only was a kitchen stove replaced for the homeowner by a group of volunteers who wish to remain anonymous but a new front door was framed up and installed and two new windows were put in to improve the energy efficiency for the house. Caulking was done in the bathroom and the toilet was repaired.

**House # 8:** *“My husband is so happy he can now take his wheelchair outside and go out on the patio – we really didn’t have one before. It is good to see how happy he is.”*

Led by Brian Owens, house captain, fifteen volunteers from the Calvert County Lions Club enabled this homeowner to enjoy the out-of-doors by extending his front deck and wheelchair ramp so that he can now take his power wheelchair outside. Decking, stairs and railings were replaced on the rear deck. Two space heaters, the kitchen light, basement lights, and a ceiling fan were also replaced. A chair rail was added to the kitchen to minimize the wheelchair hitting the wall and the wall in the hallway was repaired.



**House # 9:** *“Christmas in April truly is touching. I am a prideful type of person and it is hard to accept help but the volunteers made me feel comfortable. It really made a difference in our lives and our family life. We are outside together on the new deck most every day now.”*

Much work was done on this home by Tom Latchaw, house captain for Trinity United Methodist Church and its twenty-three volunteers. The home’s deck, which was falling down, was replaced with a new enlarged deck, sturdy steps, and handrails. The leaking skylight was removed. A back door was repaired, gutters cleaned with some being replaced, a

ceiling fan mounted, and drains were fixed on the kitchen sink and bathtub. Major cleanup work was done in the yard which was like “giving back half of the yard to us”, according to the homeowner. The children were thrilled to have their swing set repaired and anchored securely. Through a special grant, all of the windows were replaced on this home.

Congressman Steny Hoyer stopped by this home to see a shining example of Christmas in April at work.



**House # 10:** *“The new door is working fine.”*

Two very dedicated volunteers, with Howard Brooks as house captain for Reality Homes, worked with this elderly homeowner to improve her house. A door was replaced with the door frame being reconstructed, making the home more secure and energy efficient. The bathroom was enhanced with a pedestal sink and leaks were stopped in the kitchen sink.

**House # 11:** *“I could have never afforded to pay for anything like that.”*

Twenty-three volunteers from Jesus the Divine Word, with the support of Billy Cochrane Roofing and the Knights of Columbus Council, worked on this home under the leadership of Larry Clark. This project included several repair activities, the most significant being the removal of the old two layer shingle roof, replacement of several sheets of roof sheeting and the complete installation of a new roof. Additionally, insulation and drywall was removed and replaced in two areas of the interior. The kitchen floor was repaired and the vinyl floor coverings replaced. Painting was done in the interior. Outside, a new fire wood rack was erected and wood was supplied. Yard work was done and debris removed.

**House # 12:** *"I would recommend Christmas in April to anyone."*

A ramp was built for this home by Calvert Lighthouse Tabernacle with Steve Brooks as house captain. The homeowner is very pleased that there will be wheelchair access to the home for his mother. "A bridge has been built to the house" according to her granddaughter.



**House # 14:** *"I see this as a blessing."*

Nine volunteers worked on this home under the direction of Travis Don Bullian, house captain. Not only were the back steps replaced, but a brand new 8' by 8' deck was added, just the right size according to the homeowner. Repairs were made on the roof and the drywall in the bathroom. Bathroom light fixtures were secured and six front step treads were replaced.

**House # 13:** *"I feel good, very good, about Christmas in April."*

Henry Merryman and Paul Milani were co-captains for this home which was jumping with forty-five volunteers from Huntingtown United Methodist Church and the Latter Day Saints Church. McKenzie Septic and Backhoe, Hatchers Supply, and Sneade's provided support. The roof of the house was replaced. In addition, several plumbing repairs were made, one storm door was replaced and another repaired. The bathroom floor was repaired and vinyl siding and soffits were installed on the rear of the house. Two new posts were put in supporting roofing and electrical work was also done for the homeowner. Flower beds were mulched.



**House # 15:** *"Everything just went beautiful. We were glad to meet such good people."*

Chet Taylor, house captain, with the assistance of seventeen volunteers from Chesapeake Church and Gross and Sons Enterprises repaired water damaged sections of the roof and put on new shingles for the entire roof. Part of the kitchen floor was repaired, insulation under the floor in the crawl space was replaced, windows were caulked, and rotted sills and trim were repaired. Gutters were cleaned and overgrown trees and shrubs were removed to prevent further damage to the house. They were especially rewarded by having family members working side by side with the volunteers.

**House # 16:** *"We are stunned. The work was absolutely fantastic."*

Many improvements were made to the home of this elderly couple by fourteen volunteers from the Calvert County Board of Education and the Kiwanis Club of Calvert, with George Leah as house captain. This group rebuilt the bathroom joists, subfloor, and tile. New water saver toilet, sink, and vanity were installed and plumbing repairs were made. Kitchen base cabinets and laminate tops were added, as was a new carpet in the living room. Rotted floor joists were replaced in the kitchen and a number of miscellaneous minor house repairs were completed.

**House # 17:** *“Christmas in April is just a nice bunch of people – you don’t find people like that now.”*

Eighteen volunteers from Friendship United Methodist Church, with Ray Wilkerson as house captain, replaced this homeowner’s back door, enabling her to now have a locked home. They repaired the roof and cleaned the gutters, installing gutter guards. The bedroom and two doors were painted and the base improved for the heat pump. The homeowner was impressed also with all of the yard work done, saying they cleaned that up beautifully, weeding and mulching four flower beds, and removing many bags of leaves.

**House # 18:** *“It made us feel like we were on Extreme Makeover. I felt like I could stand here and cry – They were so good to us. It looks like a new house, at least to us. They would just notice things and correct them.”*

This home was made more accessible for this elderly disabled couple by twenty volunteers from Constellation Energy, the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Patuxent High School, under the guidance of Joe Suarez-Murias. Carpeting worn out by the power wheelchair was replaced with laminate flooring in three rooms (with detailed finish work by flooring contractor Randy Rawlings). The bedroom was painted. The grass was cut, which had not been done for half a year. Two large trees and stumps were removed, branches were picked up, and forty-three bags of mulch were used. The house was power washed, much to the owners’ pleasure and surprise.



**House # 19:** *“Everything really shines. The biggest improvement was the work on the back porch roof and stopping the leak there.”*

This volunteer group of twelve from Our Lady Star of the Sea Knights of Columbus was led by John Brauner. In addition to the extensive roof repair,

plumbing and electrical repairs were made to the home, smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors were installed, the gutters were cleaned, and yard work was done. This home was modified to make it more accessible and safer for this homeowner. All door knobs were replaced with easy open door lever handles, a hand held shower was added, non-skid strips were added in the bathroom, and lighting was improved.

**House # 20 (4A):** *“The ramp will make it much easier.”*

This home was made safer for the homeowner by All Saints Episcopal Church, under the leadership of Frank McPhillips. Nine volunteers built a ramp for the homeowner whose big challenge is that his legs don’t work too well anymore, making it difficult to walk and climb steps. The sliding door was replaced with a new door that swings open like a regular door, making access easier and, according to the homeowner, the door looks much better. A plumbing repair was made and some minor yard work, including mulching and raking, was done.

**House # 21:** *“I am very pleased with the work, especially the house painting.”*

Many hours were spent on this home by seventeen volunteers from Constellation Energy and Patuxent and Calvert High School students, with Clyde Thomas as house captain. A gravel walkway was created for this elderly woman and gravel was added to the driveway. The team painted the exterior of the house, as well as the bathroom and the deck. Yard work was done, gutters cleaned, and debris removed from an old shed. A bathroom fan and plumbing repairs improved the bathroom. Additionally, the deck was power washed, electrical repairs were completed, and several windows were replaced.

**House # 22:** *“I am thankful for the window replacements, since my physical challenges prevent me from doing heavy labor.”*

Brian Brady was the house captain for this third home for Constellation Energy. The US Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Bartlett Nuclear also provided volunteers. Eleven windows on the second story of this 1962 block home were replaced. All original windows had some issues, such as cracked glass and/or rotten wood. Framing also had to be rebuilt and caulking completed. This definitely improved the energy efficiency of this house.

**House # 23:** *"It is so much easier to use the generator when we lose electricity. This is needed for my daughter's health issues."*

This home was also improved by Constellation Energy, under the direction of Jim Baker who had three volunteers. A small shed was built to house an emergency generator so that it could be placed adjacent to the house. Previously, this mother had to drag the generator out of a shed in times of need, often during rain or snow, to make sure electricity was available as her daughter is dependent upon it. Now she just has to "open a door and crank it up". Improvements were made to two bay windows and roofing materials above them were replaced.

**House # 24:** *"This was a big help with our electric bill and the house is more comfortable. The volunteers never complained about how hot it was working in the attic."*

Jay Maisel, house captain, with six volunteers and the support of Truly Custom Homes, made a noticeable difference in this home immediately. These improvements were made through insulating the attic and caulking. Additionally, the front door and storm door were replaced. Electrical repairs were made so that the homeowners are no longer "kicking a breaker". Exterior painting and yard work made the

home look better. This elderly couple described the volunteers as "a happy bunch who got along well together and who were courteous and proficient".

**House # 25 (#10A):** *"Everything they did, they did okay!"*

An elderly homeowner and her daughter were pleased to have their home spruced up by five volunteers from St. Nicholas Lutheran Church, with Keith Williams serving as house captain. The living room was painted a "pretty egg shell color" and the windows were washed. Yard work was done and the gutters were cleaned. Additionally, the home was improved with electrical and plumbing repairs.

**House # 26 (14A):** *"I thank God for what they did."*

This is the second year Huntingtown High School has volunteered to work Christmas in April, with Marshall Pike as house captain. Twenty-nine volunteers provided improvements which included replacing the roof on an addition and repairing, sanding, and painting the stairs and deck. General yard clean-up was performed and gutters were repaired. They were pleased to have family members stop by on several occasions to offer their appreciation to the workers.



**Christmas in April\*Calvert County, Inc.** an affiliate of **Rebuilding Together**

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

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

I would like donate the following material: \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me at: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward home repairs done by Christmas in April. Enclosed please find my (our) check.

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, 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.*



**CHRISTMAS IN APRIL**  
**CALVERT COUNTY, INC.**  
An Affiliate of Rebuilding Together

Application/Referral Form  
**DUE SEPTEMBER 30, 2011**  
 DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND TO: P.O. Box 2761, Prince Frederick, MD 20678

PHONE: 410-535-9044

<b>NAME OF HOMEOWNER(S)</b> (All legal homeowners must live in the home)	
<b>HOME ADDRESS</b>	
<b>MAILING ADDRESS</b>	
<b>PHONE NUMBER</b>	

<b>DIRECTIONS</b>	
<b>HOUSE TYPE</b>	
<b>AGE OF HOUSE</b>	

**RESIDENT INFORMATION** \*for additional residents, please attach extra sheet of paper

NAME	AGE	RACE	RELATIONSHIP	INCOME
(Homeowner)				

<b>DESCRIPTION OF WORK REQUESTED</b> (List by priority)	

	YES	NO
Has this home been worked on in the past by Christmas in April?		
Have you applied for other assistance with home repairs?		
Is Homeowner aware of this referral?		
Homeowner is ___ Elderly (over 60) ___ Disabled ___ Low Income		
Please give the name(s) of the legal homeowner(s).		
Notes:		

REFERRAL SUBMITTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

*Spreading the spirit of volunteerism by helping low income homeowners.*

## ***Preparations Take Place Year Round for the April Workday***

**In September each year, Christmas in April\*Calvert County, Inc, distributes Application/Referral forms** to non-profit organizations, churches, libraries, Office on Aging, Social Services, Health Department, and others. Applications for Christmas in April 2011 are due October 23, 2010. 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 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 are only informed in January once Christmas in April knows it has a House Captain and group to do the work.

Parallel to the application process runs the **selection of House Captains and groups to do the work**. 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 Home Logistics Committee and delivered to the home 1-2 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.

**On the workday more than 375 volunteers, skilled and unskilled labor, meet at the different work sites.** Others work behind the scenes, preparing lunches, and supplying logistic support. The planned amount of work is based on an eight hour workday.

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

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