



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mary's Center Prepares for Washington's Day of Giving: Activism Starts @ Home

Do More 24 Seeks to Raise Nearly \$2 Million to Support D.C, Maryland and Virginia Residents

Washington, DC – Giving is a year-round activity, but on Thursday, June 8th Mary's Center and more than 600 area nonprofits expect to receive additional support through the [United Way of the National Capital Area](#) (United Way NCA) Do More 24 Campaign, the region's largest online giving day.

“These are difficult times for many of our community members and through this campaign you get to contribute to the impact our programs have on the most vulnerable people in our region,” says Maria Gomez, President and CEO of Mary's Center. “Do More 24 enables Mary's Center to receive the extra support that we need to serve the ever-increasing number of families in need of our health, social support and workforce training programs to withstand any proposed budget cuts. Last year we found ourselves providing \$6M worth of free services to our most resilient and financially fragile working community.”

Residents throughout the D.C. 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 healthcare, animal welfare and workforce readiness to environmental causes, financial stability, education, homelessness and housing, and many more.

“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's “Start Your Activism @ Home”](#) will take place from 12 midnight to 11:59 pm on June 8th and is expected to raise nearly \$2 million. To mark the day, United Way NCA will host 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. The block party will be held at the PEPCO Edison Gallery, 702 8th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. on Thursday, June 8th from 7:00 am until 3:00 pm.

Do More 24 is June 8, 2017.

To donate to Mary's Center please visit <https://domore24.org/npos/marys-center-1>.

www.DOMORE24.org

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About Mary's Center

Founded in 1988, Mary's Center is a Community Health Center that provides a model of care that includes healthcare, educational and social services to more than 40,000 individuals from over 100 countries. Using a holistic, multipronged approach, Mary's Center helps each participant access individualized services and find the path towards wellness, stable families, educational success and economic opportunities. For more information please visit us at www.maryscenter.org or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [Instagram](#).

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.