



City of Virginia Beach

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MAYOR

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Dear Community Partner:

Volunteers, nonprofits and people-minded organizations are critical to the sustainability of our community. Never before has this been more apparent.

On October 8, 2016, Hurricane Matthew poured more than ten inches of rain on parts of our City — creating an event unmatched in size and scope from anything else we have ever seen. In the wake of disaster, City departments, community partners and private citizens from far and wide came together to help those who were devastated.

Our public safety departments responded superbly to calls for service, while supporting departments manned the Emergency Operations Center for more than 31 straight days. We collected thousands of tons of debris, opened a variety of community recovery centers with the help of our faith-based organizations, organized and distributed clothing and household goods to residents in need, and ensured that displaced citizens could secure new, safe housing.

The efforts of every person, every agency and every volunteer deserve recognition. Because of your dedication, our citizens were fed, sheltered and clothed, and could begin their return to normalcy. Because of your help, our residents are on the road to recovery.

Your kindness and generosity are truly appreciated, and words cannot express the gratitude that all City residents feel in the wake of Hurricane Matthew.

Please accept my humblest thanks and recognition for your work and service.

Sincerely,

William D. Sessoms, Jr.
Mayor