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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FUNDING AWARDED TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING SHELTER FOR MINORS  
FOR A MULTI-PURPOSE COURT**

**VIRGINIA BEACH, VA** – *The Hallow by Samaritan House*, the first shelter for victims of human trafficking ages 11-17 years old in Eastern Virginia, has been awarded \$200,000 to build a multi-purpose court for their clients.

Earlier this year, Virginia State Delegate Michael Feggans proposed the award for the newly opened shelter in the State’s budget. After the award was approved by the Virginia House of Delegates’ Budgetary Committee, it was voted on and passed on the floor, and then approved by Governor Glenn Youngkin on Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The multi-purpose court will include activity space for basketball, pickleball, and volleyball. The court will promote therapeutic physical activity, teamwork, and the mental well-being of clients. Construction of the multi-purpose court is expected to be completed within eight weeks of receiving the award.

In recognition of the budget amendment, a check presentation will be held on Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:30pm-2pm at *The Hallow by Samaritan House*. Delegate Michael Feggans, Representing the 97<sup>th</sup> District; Robin Gauthier, Executive Director of Samaritan House; and Michael T. Sciancalepore, Chair of the Governing Board of Directors of Samaritan House will be on-site for remarks. Other local delegates and council members have been invited to attend.

Please note that no access will be allowed to the inside of the building for the confidentiality and well-being of clients.

Learn more about *The Hallow by Samaritan House* at <https://samaritanhouseva.org/thehallow>.

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**ABOUT SAMARITAN HOUSE:** Since 1984, Samaritan House has been helping people free themselves from domestic and sexual violence, human trafficking, and homelessness by providing emergency and permanent housing, support services and community outreach. For additional information, visit: [www.samaritanhouseva.org](http://www.samaritanhouseva.org)