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**Local bank, high schools rally for families of children with cancer**  
***Holiday Hope Drive at BCSB branches and Turkey Bowl to benefit A Place Called Hope***

*BALTIMORE* – Employees at Baltimore County Savings Bank, as well as the Calvert Hall and Loyola high school communities, encourage the public to join them in helping the families of children with cancer this Thanksgiving season by making gift donations at BCSB's 18 branches across Baltimore and the annual Calvert Hall versus Loyola Turkey Bowl on Thanksgiving day.

All donations will benefit Baltimore County-based A Place Called Hope, a non-profit organization founded to provide support to families living with childhood cancer, who frequently face financial burdens as a result of their child's illness.

BCSB employees originally selected A Place Called Hope from a dozen employee-nominated charities as the recipient of their weekly Casual Day for Charity payroll deductions. BCSB has raised \$500 to date in conjunction with the Casual Day for Charity, but wanted to do more to support this locally-based charity that has been a bank customer since it was founded. By encouraging the community to make donations at BCSB branches through November 23, BCSB hopes to raise awareness of needy families and make a significant difference.

"At BCSB, we recognize the immediate impact A Place Called Hope has on families facing what is an inconceivable crisis to many of us," says Joseph Bouffard, president and CEO of Baltimore County Savings Bank. "We hope to encourage others in our community to serve these families by caring for their immediate needs so they can concentrate on the health of their children."

BCSB will collect donations at all 18 bank locations until November 23, the day after Thanksgiving. As an official sponsor of the Turkey Bowl, BCSB will also collect donations at the football game between Calvert Hall and Loyola on Thanksgiving Day. A Place Called Hope will accept donations such as grocery and gas gift cards, vouchers to area attractions, cameras, hand-held electronic games, MP3 players, children's books, DVDs, art supplies, stuffed animals, puzzles and children's toy and request that all donations are new.

"What an awesome opportunity this is for us to continue helping families!" says Ms. Stuart Sweitzer, president and founder of A Place Called Hope, who personally knows the issues these families face after having a child born with cancer. "BCSB has been an important partner since A Place Called Hope opened its first account with BCSB as a charitable organization. We are grateful for their caring nature and efforts to raise awareness about our organization."

Founded in 1955, BCSB Bankcorp, Inc. is the holding company of Baltimore County Savings Bank, FSB. BCSB provides regional community banking solutions through 18 locations across the Baltimore metropolitan area. BCSB Bankcorp, Inc. became a publicly traded mutual holding company in July 1998. For more information, visit [www.baltcosavings.com](http://www.baltcosavings.com).

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