



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 18, 2020

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BLACK COMMUNITY LEADERS JOIN TOGETHER TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF EXPLOSION

Baltimore City Council candidate Maria M. Vismale joins with local mental health and real estate professionals to help families in need.

Last week, a major gas explosion destroyed homes in Northwest Baltimore on Labyrinth Road, killing one woman and seriously injuring several others.

The explosion tore through the homes leaving them damaged, and many suffering mentally as well as financially.

Candidate Vismale was an emergency responder and came to help give out supplies and lift the people up. She was glad to help but knows that you can stop there. She said, “we are a family and in difficult times we must come together as a family. I know the community is in need and as an advocate for the people of Baltimore, as well as a resident, I am here to serve my community.”

On Thursday, Vismale will be passing out donations and supplies to victims of the explosion, including gift cards, toiletries, toys, and care packages at the nearby Goodwill Store and Donation Center.

She will be joined two other Black advocates, Kim Ridley of Miracles N More Outreach, Latoya Nkongolo, a licensed therapist, and Helen Cantlo a realtor who can give advice to people needing assistance finding a new home.

Their goal as Black female activists is to work together to heal the community, holistically. They will provide material help, as well as mental health services.

When:

Thursday, August 20 from 1 pm to 4pm

Where:

Goodwill Retail Store and Donation Center

6999 Reisterstown Rd
Baltimore, MD 21214

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About Maria Mandela Vismale

Vismale is a candidate for Baltimore's 5th District City Council. She is a third generation Baltimorean and a former defense investigator.

About Kim Ridley

Ridley is a business owner and CEO of Miracles N Beyond hair salon.

About Latoya Nkongolo

Nkongolo grew up on Rogers Ave and is a licensed therapist and owner of Work Life, LLC, an urgent care behavioral health group practice.

About Helen Cantlo

Cantlo is a local real estate agent at Kemp & Associates Real Estate and Property Management.