



[www.doorwaysVA.org](http://www.doorwaysVA.org)

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**DOORWAYS FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES RECOGNIZES  
ABUSED WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S AWARENESS DAY, JUNE 11**  
*Local Non-Profit Discusses Significant Impact Abuse Has on Quality of Life Issues*

Arlington, Va., June 9, 2006 — **Doorways for Women and Families**, Arlington's only shelter for abused, homeless and at-risk women and their families, is bringing a call to action to the Arlington area to recognize Sunday, June 11 as Abused Women and Children's Awareness Day. This is a day to bring attention to the rising incidence of abuse that women face and the devastating consequences for them and their children.

"Thousands of women and children in Northern Virginia and across the country experience frequent domestic abuse and violence, and we need to provide resources to help them make new and better lives for themselves," said **Linda Dunphy**, Doorways' Executive Director. "Abused Women and Children's Awareness Day brings national attention to women and their families who suffer from abuse, and the need of communities to stand up and support those trying to move out of abusive situations."

Domestic violence is one of the most critical public health issues facing women and children today, and its impact is felt by every member of society. Each year, Doorways helps the more than 250 women and children who are homeless in Northern Virginia. More than half of these report domestic violence as a reason for their homelessness. Doorways provides 1,800 hours of counseling annually to women who have been abused, and responds to more than 2,000 calls on its Domestic Violence Hotline.

According to the American Medical Association, one in four women in the US reports being abused in a physical, sexual, or emotional manner by a partner or spouse. These abusive behaviors can cause injury, disability and major health disorders, such as eating disorders and anxiety, and most significantly, homelessness. As a result, Doorways offers a variety of services to cater to the needs of these women and their children, not only in northern Virginia, but the greater DC metro area, including:

- Emergency Family Shelter
- Court Advocacy and Accompaniment Services
- Safe House Domestic Violence Shelter

Members of Doorways' Good Neighbor Club donate monthly to support the programs at Doorways and the needs of abused women in Northern Virginia. To learn more about the Good Neighbor Club, and how you can join, visit <http://www.doorwaysva.org/>.

Awareness of the abuse that women and children face each day is critical to stopping the abuse and getting help for the victims. Doorways is committed to helping women and their families who have been abused get the help they need to regain control of their lives.

Main Office  
PO Box 100185  
Arlington, VA 22210  
Tel 703.522.8858  
Fax 703.522.4338

Emergency Family Shelter  
Tel 703.237.1147  
Fax 703.812.9250

Safehouse Domestic  
Violence Shelter &  
Programs  
Tel 703.237.0881  
Fax 703.237.1146

Doorways Thrift Shop  
5643 Lee Highway  
Tel 703.237.0867



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**To request an interview with Linda Dunphy, Executive Director of Doorways for Women and Families, please contact Lauren Lawson at 202.360.2406 or Sarah Wayne at 703.585.4607**

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**Doorways for Women and Families**, formerly The Arlington Temporary Shelter (TACTS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that empowers women and families who are abused, homeless or at-risk to live safe, secure and self-sufficient lives. For over 25 years, Doorways has provided shelter and services and educated the larger community about violence and homelessness. Doorways is the 2006 recipient of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce Best Business Award (ABBIE) in the nonprofit category. Doorways was selected as a featured charity in the 2005 issue of *The Catalogue of Philanthropy*, and is the winner of the 2006 Arlington County's Community Hero Award for Volunteers. Doorways is also the 2006 recipient of the James B. Hunter Community Hero Award and the 2005 James B. Hunter Human Rights Award. Doorways is the 2006-2008 nonprofit pro-bono client for Washington Women in PR (WWPR). Doorways for Women and Families can be found on the Web at [www.doorwaysVA.org](http://www.doorwaysVA.org).

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