



www.doorwaysVA.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 16, 2006

CONTACT: Lauren Lawson, 202.360.2406
lawsonlauren1@yahoo.com
Sarah Wayne, 703.585.4607
se_wayne@yahoo.com

ARLINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HONORS
DOORWAYS FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES
Doorways Receives Arlington's 11th Annual Best Business Award

EMBARGOED (Arlington, Va., May 16, 2006) — **Doorways for Women and Families**, Arlington's only shelter for abused, homeless and at-risk women and their families, was presented with the Arlington Best Business Award (ABBIE) from the Arlington Chamber of Commerce at an awards breakfast this morning at the Sheraton National Hotel at 7:30 AM. Doorways' Executive Director, **Linda Dunphy**, accepted the ABBIE presented by mistress of ceremonies, Alison Starling of WJLA. .

"Doorways for Women and Families is honored to be recognized by Arlington's business community for the positive difference we make in people's lives" said Dunphy. "For more than 25 years, Doorways has provided individually-tailored support services to homeless women and families to support their productive, contributions to our community."

The ABBIE Awards celebrates the best businesses in Arlington. Each year, the Arlington Chamber of Commerce and the Arlington Economic Development Commission recognize outstanding businesses in the community with the prestigious ABBIE Award. To qualify for an ABBIE Award, an organization must be a viable on-going business, which has experienced significant growth or stability over its business life, and also display an interest and concern for the community. In addition, ABBIE Award recipients offer a unique approach to delivery of their goods or services.

Doorways' volunteers at both their Family Shelter and Emergency Shelter dedicate themselves fully to providing services to families, and successfully met these criteria. Of their many services, the most exceptional include 24/7 shelter to women and families impacted by homelessness and domestic violence; support group services for women in shelter and those not ready or able to leave domestic violence situations; specialized services for children to address their unique needs, and providing financial education to ensure self-sufficiency through debt management and budgeting support

The 11th Annual Arlington Best Business Awards (ABBIES) are designed to celebrate the achievements and contributions of Arlington businesses. Chamber ABBIES recipients are nominated by the Chamber membership and chosed by a committee of past award winners and the Chamber Chairman.

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

###

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



www.doorwaysVA.org

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 was selected as a featured charity in the 2005 issue of *The Catalogue of Philanthropy*, and is the winner of the 2006 James P. Hunter Community Hero Award and the 2005 James P. 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.

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce and Arlington County. Founded in 1924, the Arlington Chamber of Commerce is a voluntary organization of over 1,600 business and professional people committed to economic and civic well being of the community. Arlington County's Economic Commission (EDC) is an advisory body of forward-thinking leaders that provide leadership and strategic guidance to economic development in Arlington, Va. Together, the Arlington Chamber of Commerce and the EDC work together to help the Arlington business community grow and prosper. Each year, awards recognize specific achievement of Arlington businesses and business leaders as well as the overall success of the Arlington business community.

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