



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DOORWAYS FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES WINS JAMES B. HUNTER III COMMUNITY HERO AWARD

Family Emergency Shelter Volunteers Support Homeless and Domestic Violence Survivors

(Arlington, Va., May x, 2006) — **Doorways for Women and Families**, Arlington's only shelters for abused, homeless and at-risk women and their families, has won the 2006 James B. Hunter III Community Hero Award for its Family Emergency Shelter volunteers. The emergency shelter, open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, provides individually-tailored support services that prepare clients to lead secure, self-sufficient lives.

Volunteers at the Family Emergency Shelter provide direct services and shelter coverage to women and families impacted by homelessness. Services include overseeing all shelter needs and providing a safe environment for all families; providing care and guidance for children whose parents are attending shelter functions or services; overseeing all grocery and dietary needs of clients, and providing financial education, including debt management and budgeting support.

"The volunteers at the Family Emergency Shelter have dedicated themselves to the needs of our families with no expectation of monetary compensation for their time and efforts," said **Linda Dunphy, Executive Director of Doorways for Women and Children**. "The impact of the direct service provided by the volunteers to the families in the shelter is invaluable and cannot be measured."

Each month, volunteers contribute approximately 83 hours of service to the Family Emergency Shelter. The activities performed during this time include basic shelter coverage, children's services and budgeting assistance. The work of these volunteers enables Doorways for Women and Children to provide services that are otherwise not funded to help maintain 24 hour coverage of the shelter.

The award will be presented to Doorways for Women and Families at a brunch that will be held on Saturday, May 13th from 9:30-11:00 am at Rock Bottom Restaurant at the Ballston Common Mall. Doorways for Women and Families was a 2005 recipient of the James B. Hunter III Human Rights Award for its role in empowering homeless, abused and at-risk women and families to lead safe, secure and self-sufficient lives.

For more information about the program or confidential location, please call 703.237.1147

To request an interview with Linda Dunphy, Executive Director or Colin Davis, Family Shelter Director, 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 was selected as a featured charity in the 2005 issue of *The Catalogue of Philanthropy*, and is the winner of the 2006 James B. 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.