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Arlington Heights Business Give Back to WINGS

On Tuesday, May 9, 2006 local Arlington Heights businesses set about making sure WINGS (Women In Need Growing Stronger) women and children felt special this Mother's Day. The owner of Chrysalis Hair Emporium, Diane, donated hair services and Joyce LaSalvia of My Little Room donated manicures. Stylist Donna also helped out. Augie's Riv chipped in pizzas and Arlington Heights Florist and Gifts stepped forward with flowers for the ladies. Joan Shortall organized gift baskets for each of the women and gave them the choice to pick what they wanted.

"This wasn't a fundraiser but rather a wonderful gesture of compassion shown by Arlington Heights businesses to families who are struggling with hard issues right now" said Jennifer Djordjevic, director of public relations.

The day of pampering was organized by the Safe House Friends of WINGS under the guidance of Diane at Chrysalis. The group, which consists of board members and other people in the community, meets on a monthly basis to talk about the needs of the Safe House and what they can do to help the women and children living there.

Djordjevic says, “We are so grateful for the people who choose to help others in need. Because of their generosity WINGS women have a chance to let go of their worries for a couple of hours and just enjoy being taken care of.”

WINGS, which opened in 1985, offers transitional housing and emergency. The Safe House, a 15,000 square foot facility opened in January of 2005 and has already helped over 150 individuals flee from domestic violence. When full, the facility can house up to 45 women and children each night and will provide women with medical, legal, and financial advocacy as well as therapeutic counseling and access to housing and other resources.

In addition the agency has 23 apartments and homes located in Skokie, Des Plaines, Park Ridge, Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates, Mount Prospect, Arlington Heights, Palatine, and Barrington, which provide transitional housing for over 90 women and children each night.

For more information about WINGS and how to get involved with the Safe House Friends of WINGS group visit www.wingsprogram.com or call 847-908-0910.

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