



For more information, contact:

Jennifer Djordjevic, Director of Public Relations

WINGS Program, Inc.
847-908-0910 x10 (office)
847-708-5300 (cell)

**For Immediate Release
November 20, 2006**

Gingerbread House Contest Open to the Public

Where will you be on Sunday, December 3, 2006? WINGS staff and Barrington Friends of WINGS advisory hope you'll attend the agency's second Home for the Holidays family luncheon at the Chicago Marriott Northwest in Hoffman Estates. The proceeds of the event will help WINGS continue providing life saving services to women and children struggling with homelessness and domestic violence.

The event, which begins at 11 a.m. and ends at 2:00 p.m., will feature a gingerbread house contest, face painting, a silent auction, live music by Kathleen Goll Wilson School of Music and a lavish buffet lunch for the whole family. Want more? Also included are a puppet show, magic tricks, cookie decorating, and visits with Santa.

The gingerbread house contest is open to the public. Both professionals and amateurs are encouraged to enter. Rules apply and the entry fee is \$20 per house for amateurs. Professional bakers should contact the office for more details.

-more-

Maria Hayes, organizer of the event and chair of the Barrington Friends says, “Our group is so pleased to bring this event back for a second year. We truly appreciate the support that Barrington and the surrounding communities have for WINGS. It’s this gathering together that makes the holidays really special.”

Sponsors for the event include Kimball Hill Homes, Fitzsimonds Charitable Trust, and Pepper Construction. Tickets are \$50 for adults and \$25 for children over three. Patron tickets are \$100 for adults and \$50 for children over three.

Barrington Friends of WINGS is a local advisory made up of Barrington area residents who help support the women and children who live in WINGS Barrington home. In addition to this premier event, the group has been instrumental in helping WINGS continue to serve families living in the home.

Rebecca Darr, WINGS executive director, says, “The Barrington Friends of WINGS are a great group of people. They’re dedicated and compassionate about what we do and the people we serve. Their generosity shows in everything they do for WINGS and our residents.”

Over the last 21 years WINGS has strived to offer transitional housing and comprehensive services to women and children who’ve become homeless. In fact, 24 homes and scattered site apartments run from as far north as Barrington to the east suburb of Skokie. WINGS recently opened their first apartment in Chicago. A 15,000 square foot Safe House provides emergency shelter for those fleeing domestic violence. In addition to shelter, the Safe House provides women with medical, legal, and financial advocacy as well as therapeutic counseling and access to housing and other resources.

For more information about WINGS or to register for the event or the gingerbread house contest please call 847-908-0910 x15 or visit www.wingsprogram.com

###