



For more information, contact:

Jennifer Djordjevic, Director of Public Relations
WINGS Program, Inc.
847-908-0910 (office)
847-708-5300 (cell)

**For Immediate Release
January 27, 2006**

WINGS Gears Up for Annual Motorcycle Raffle and Ride

On June 4, 2006 WINGS will host its 6th Annual Benefit Ride at Bootleggers in Antioch, IL. At 4:00 one lucky winner will walk away with \$10,000 cash or a 2006 Harley Davidson Road King Classic. Registration for the event is \$20 per person and includes lunch and one poker hand – those registering before May 1st will get an extra poker hand, a commemorative t-shirt and pin and a chance at a \$100 bonus prize. Raffle tickets for the bike also run \$20 a piece.

All proceeds from the event and the sales of raffle tickets will benefit WINGS housing and services it provides to women and children struggling with homelessness and domestic violence in the north and northwest suburbs of Chicago.

Rebecca Darr, Executive Director for WINGS, says, “We are so pleased to host this successful event year after year – not only are we raising money for things like WINGS Safe House but were also attracting a lot of new donors and volunteers in the process.”

Last year the event drew over 300 people to Jesse Oak’s in Gages Lake. This year the event has expanded to Bootleggers in Antioch and will feature a live band, food, raffle prizes and a DJ. The grand raffle will take place at 4:00 however the winner does not need to be present.

-more-

Suburban Harley Davidson provided the Road King Classic and Royal American Bank has offered to underwrite the sales tax, title, license and registration fees for the winner.

In addition to the day festivities WINGS, is also planning to do a mass mailing to past participants as well as develop a monthly e-news alert to let participants know how things are going before the big day.

Jennifer Djordjevic, director of public relations says, “This event gets more sophisticated each year. We know that people are looking for a quality event and our committee has stepped up to the plate to provide that for the participants.”

WINGS offers transitional housing and emergency shelter. 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. Funds in the amount of \$675,000 from the state of Illinois however, have yet to come through.

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.

“We are in need of more funding to sustain the operations of the Safe House,” said Darr. “That’s why support of our fundraising efforts is more important than ever right now. Whether purchasing a raffle ticket or making a donation, people will be making a difference and ultimately helping women and children escape the devastation of domestic violence.”

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 or the 6th Annual Benefit Ride visit www.wingsprogram.com. To purchase raffle tickets, please call Jennifer at 847-908-0910 x10.

###