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**Alexandria, VA-based Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services
Chosen for New 2006 Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington**

Alexandria, VA-based Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services has been selected as a featured charity in the 2006-07 *Catalogue for Philanthropy*. This is the *Catalogue's* third year in the Washington, DC region. Supported by local foundations (Harman, Meyer, Cafritz, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, Marriott and Fowler) as a service to the community, the *Catalogue* profiles environmental, cultural, educational, human services, and international organizations. A review committee of 50 experienced grantmakers and members of local nonprofit organizations choose approximately seventy-five new nonprofits each year. Each *Catalogue* also relists prior years' charitable organizations. All *Catalogue* nonprofits are live at the website, **www.catalogueforphilanthropy.org/dc**.

Good Shepherd Housing prevents homelessness among the working poor elderly, and disabled by renting apartments with supportive services, making grants to prevent evictions, and providing counseling and financial education to all its clients. Families facing eviction receive funds during short-term crises. Families without housing – who earn too much for some programs and not enough for others – gain access to affordable housing where they can also re-establish good credit and a positive tenancy history. Families falling in and out of homelessness receive financial support and counseling to move them into stable homes and help them achieve long-term self-sufficiency. GSHFS stabilized over 500 families last year, graduated 24 to housing of their own choice, and purchased additional housing units to buffer families from rising rents. Clients use their own income as their primary financial resource; Good Shepherd's role is to act as a catalyst – and then step back and allow the clients' accomplishments to be entirely their own. Your support means so much more than a roof over their heads.

After an inaugural year in the District of Columbia, the *Catalogue* expanded to the Greater Washington region—adding nonprofits in Northern Virginia and nearby Maryland counties. 30,000 individuals and hundreds of foundations will receive copies of the *Catalogue* in mid-November. To date, the *Catalogue* has helped to raise over \$2.5 million in pledges and gifts for local nonprofits.

According to Barbara Harman, Executive Director of the Harman Family Foundation, "The *Catalogue* is designed to be a showcase for DC region philanthropy and an inviting way for individuals and families to participate in charitable giving." A single check sent to the *Catalogue's* DC office, or an online donation at its website, www.catalogueforphilanthropy.org/dc, can be allocated to as many charities as the donor pleases. Donors may also contact the charities directly. "Because the *Catalogue* is fully paid for by its philanthropic partners," Harman notes, "100% of every donation goes to the designated nonprofits."

Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services was selected from a competitive field of 200 candidates. "Charities were selected for excellence, innovation, and cost-effectiveness-- and for what they can teach us about the extraordinary ways that philanthropy works," Harman said. "These are certainly among the best small charities in the Washington, DC region."

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For further information please contact the charity named above or the *Catalogue* office: phone 202-549-6369; email bharman@catalogueforphilanthopy.org.