

For Immediate Release

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Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing Makes Ten Apartments Available at Reduced Rents for Arlington's Most Vulnerable Population

Arlington, VA (October 2, 2012) – The <u>Arlington Partnership for Affordable</u> <u>Housing</u> today announced an innovative, long-term program to provide 10 apartments at very low rents to house Arlington's most vulnerable homeless population, as part of Arlington's <u>100 Homes Campaign</u> and the <u>Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness</u>.

"APAH is proud make a lasting contribution toward ending homelessness in Arlington County," said Nina Janopaul, APAH President/CEO. "We will provide homes for ten of the county's most vulnerable homeless Arlingtonians at our Marbella Apartments as part of an innovative public/private partnership. These will be among a handful of Arlington homes affordable to extremely low income households in the area. We are truly honored to be an important part of the solution to end homelessness in our community."

Funded by a unique partnership with Arlington County and the Arlington Community Foundation, APAH will provide 10 one-bedroom apartments initially at \$556 per month to be affordable to extremely low income households earning no more than 30% of <u>Area Median Income</u> (AMI). The units will remain affordable at this level for the next 30 years. Additional funds will create a Rental Reserve to further reduce rents for persons coming out of homelessness.

Arlington's Department of Human Services will identify the residents to receive housing and provide wrap around, supportive services to help residents transition to independent living.

"The \$1 million is being used to 'buy down' 10 one-bedroom units that will be set aside for 30 years for permanent supportive housing for clients at a local apartment complex owned and operated by the Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing (APAH)," said Anita Friedman, Economic Independence Division Chief for Arlington County's Department of Human Services.

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APAH is a pioneer in providing <u>permanent supportive housing</u>. Today 26% of households living at APAH properties receive financial or supportive services. APAH was the first affordable housing developer to work with Arlington County on Project Hope, a program to house individuals in need of supportive services in scattered-site locations. This has become a model for the state of Virginia as a successful, cost efficient way of housing low income residents with additional challenges. In 2010 APAH was recognized for "Exceptional Commitment to the Arlington County Supportive Housing Program." APAH also initiated an innovative, award-winning partnership in 2009 with our nonprofit partner, <u>Doorways for Women and Families</u>, to provide very low cost rental housing for Doorways clients transitioning from their emergency shelter.

In October 2011 Arlington County identified the most vulnerable homeless individuals as part of the Arlington County 100 Homes Campaign. This collaborative effort, spearheaded by Arlington's Department of Human Services and the Arlington Street People's Assistance Network (A-SPAN), under the auspices of Arlington's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness, identified 83 individuals in greatest need and are working together to provide housing and supportive services for them. Many are older, have medical challenges and have been homeless for years. To date, 27 have found permanent homes.

The 100 Homes Campaign is part of a statewide effort called 1,000 Homes for 1,000 Homeless Virginians led by the <u>Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness</u>, and part of the national 100,000 Homes Campaign, led by <u>Community Solutions</u>. Over 100 communities across the country are participating in the national campaign.

The goal of Arlington's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness is that that no individual or family lack access to decent, affordable housing. Arlington's 10 Year Plan is based on the best practice strategy of "housing first," which focuses on preventing homelessness, moving people who do become homeless into housing rapidly, and providing the wrap-around services necessary for them to maintain their housing.

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APAH is a nonprofit that owns, develops, and preserves quality housing that is affordable to low and moderate-income families. APAH is the only nonprofit affordable housing developer working exclusively in Arlington County. Founded in 1989, APAH now helps 1000 households live in stable, secure and affordable rental homes. APAH was named Developer of the Year in 2011 by the Housing Association of Nonprofit Developers (HAND) and received the Prize for Innovation and Impact from the Arlington Community Foundation; in 2009 APAH received the HAND Innovation Award and in 2008 was named Best Nonprofit Small Business of the Year by the Arlington Chamber of Commerce.

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