

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fathers, sons, uncles, grandfathers to walk against violence tomorrow

NEWPORT NEWS, VA – Tomorrow, Saturday, June 10, 2006, dozens of men, women and children will join together in walking for violence prevention and awareness. The **First Annual Dad's Walk for Healthy Families** will celebrate and promote healthy relationships and raise awareness in the community, especially among males.

Organized by Transitions Family Violence Services and the Newport News Domestic Violence Task Force (NNDVT), the **First Annual Dad's Walk for Healthy Families** will run from 8 AM – 12 PM, at Newport News Park, Shelters 19 & 20. The Dad's Walk encourages men, women, children, and community members to recognize the vital role that men play in promoting healthy relationships within their families and their communities. The family-friendly two mile walk and awareness event will feature giveaways, speeches, presentations, and information from area agencies working to promote healthy relationships and end violence on the Peninsula. Giveaways are provided by local community businesses.

During the **First Annual Dad's Walk for Healthy Families**, Mayor Joe Frank will proclaim June to be Healthy Relationships Month in Newport News. Other speakers include Newport News Commonwealth's Attorney Howard E. Gwynn and Newport News Sheriff Gabe Morgan.

Cost is \$3 for individuals and families of four or less, and \$5 for families of five or more. The first 250 registrants get free t-shirts, so register now! You can register online at <http://www.transitionsfvs.org>. For more information, contact Jenny Scherer, (757) 722-2261, jscherer@transitionsfvs.org

For more information about the **First Annual Dad's Walk for Healthy Families**, and to register online, visit <http://www.transitionsfvs.org>

Transitions Family Violence Services is the largest domestic violence agency in Virginia, providing comprehensive family violence services in Hampton, Newport News, Poquoson, and York County. Since 1977, Transitions has provided "*a pathway to safety . . . a source of hope*" to tens of thousands of women, children and men on the Virginia Peninsula. The agency offers comprehensive and intervention programs to help families with essential needs including emergency shelter, transitional housing, counseling, legal advocacy, childcare and children's services. To date, Transitions has sheltered more than 15,000 victims of abuse for 150,000 nights and has provided outreach support to many thousands more. For more information on Transitions, please call (757) 728-0025 or visit www.transitionsfvs.org

The Newport News Domestic Violence Task Force (NNDVT) is a coalition of agencies serving Peninsula communities in the fight against violence and abuse. For more information on the NNDVT, please call (757) 722-2261 or email jscherer@transitionsfvs.org.