

# TRANSITIONS

**FAMILY VIOLENCE SERVICES**

*A pathway to safety...a source of hope*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Transitions Family Violence Services Receives Grant to Help Victims of Domestic Violence**

*Altria Group, Inc. Grant Supports Critical Services*

Hampton, VA– Transitions Family Violence Services today announced it has received a new grant to meet the needs of the increasing number of families and individuals arriving at its doors seeking refuge from domestic violence. Thanks to a \$30,000 one-year grant from Altria Group, Inc., Transitions will purchase a 15-passenger van to transport women and children residing in the agency's three shelters.

The grant is made possible by the *Altria Doors of Hope Program*, a national grant-making initiative sponsored by Altria Group, Inc., in collaboration with the National Network to End Domestic Violence Fund.

“Thanks to this new Altria grant, we will be able to meet the needs of the families who live in our shelters,” said Transitions Executive Director Marcy Wright. “In order to escape abusive situations, victims of domestic violence all too often must flee their homes with only a moment's notice. The children are often traumatized by what they've witnessed in addition to being uprooted out of their homes.”

**-more-**

Founded in 1987, Transitions Family Violence Services provides emergency and transitional shelters, counseling and advocacy, legal support, and a crisis hotline for victims of domestic violence on the Virginia Peninsula.

According to the FBI, one of every four women will be a victim of domestic violence at least once in their lifetime. Domestic violence support and advocacy organizations, like Transitions, play a critical role in helping women escape abusive relationships and overcome the emotional and physical effects this horrible crime.

“Domestic violence is a serious crime that affects millions of people without regard to ethnicity or socioeconomic status and, tragically, is often unrecognized by family and friends,” said Jennifer Goodale, vice president of contributions at Altria. “Through the *Altria Doors of Hope Program*, we support domestic violence service providers across the United States that are strengthening the safety net available to victims and survivors of this horrible crime.”

Transitions Family Violence Services has provided “a pathway to safety ... a source of hope” to tens of thousands of women and children on the Virginia Peninsula for 27 years. The agency offers a number of programs to help families with emergency shelter, transitional housing, counseling, legal advocacy, childcare and self-sufficiency and life skills. Special outreach programs for older battered women and victims with military ties also are provided.

Since 1998, the companies of Altria Group, Kraft Foods, Philip Morris International, and Philip Morris USA, have provided more than \$28 million to organizations that provide services to victims and survivors and raise awareness about this important issue. This year, Altria made an additional 160 grants totaling \$4 million through the *Altria Doors of Hope Program*. For additional information on Altria’s commitment to strengthening and improving communities around the world, visit our website at [www.altria.com/contributions](http://www.altria.com/contributions).

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Representative from Philip Morris to  
present check at Transitions Open House Oct. 6