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National Network to End Domestic Violence Announces New President

Washington, DC – Nationally recognized Missouri-based advocate Sue Else has been named President of the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV), effective May 2006. The Washington, D.C.-based organization is credited with groundbreaking work in the areas of domestic violence advocacy, policy development, education and outreach. In addition to developing the policy that made for the landmark Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and its reauthorizations in 2000 and 2005, NNEDV is the leading voice before Congress, the Administration and the Courts for battered women and their children, as well as advocates, law enforcement officials and others who encounter and serve victims of domestic violence in their work.

Ms. Else has dedicated more than two decades to providing comprehensive services to victims of domestic violence. As President and CEO of Hope House, a widely-acclaimed Kansas City, Mo., agency that serves battered women and their children, she led groundbreaking efforts to transform the program from a dilapidated 25-bed shelter to a comprehensive advocacy program equipped with 110 shelter beds, therapeutic services for children, court and legal services, and prevention education.

“Sue is a dedicated, dynamic leader who has significantly contributed to the quality of life for women in Missouri and will undoubtedly harness that experience to help affect change at the national level,” said Mary Lauby, NNEDV Board Chair and Executive Director of Jane Doe, Inc. – the Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence. “We look forward to her taking the helm and amplifying the voices of survivors.”

Else’s advocacy record also includes serving as Chair of the Public Policy Committee for the Missouri Coalition Against Domestic Violence; establishing Coordinated Community Councils to Prevent Domestic Violence throughout the state of Missouri; spearheading a collaborative effort between domestic violence agencies in Kansas City to develop and implement a Healthcare Advocacy Program in hospitals and media clinics; assisting in the creation of a domestic violence hotline in the Slovak Republic in Central Europe; and serving as a Governor-appointed member of the Missouri Women’s Council.

She has received numerous accolades for her work to empower women including the Sunshine Peace Award, the Cool Women Award from Comcast Cable and Romance Classics, and Woman of the Year Award by the Metropolitan Business Women’s Association of Kansas City.

Else will concurrently serve as the President of NNEDV's sister organization, the National Network to End Domestic Violence Fund (NNEDV Fund), which provides public education, training and technical assistance to maintain and develop the professional expertise of advocates working to end domestic violence, and service and support for victims of violence.

"Sue has a demonstrated record for actively engaging a wide range of community partners in efforts to end violence against women. Her expertise will enable NNEDV and NNEDV Fund to expand their relationships throughout the broader community and attain new heights in our advocacy work," said Fernando Laguarda, a partner at the Mintz, Levin law firm in Washington, DC and Board Chair of the National Network to End Domestic Violence Fund.

The National Network to End Domestic Violence

The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) is a 501(c)(4) membership and advocacy organization representing state domestic violence coalitions, allied organizations and supportive individuals. NNEDV works to create a social, political and economic environment in which violence against women no longer exists. Working to that end, NNEDV has become the leading voice among domestic violence advocates, developing policy that changes the way our country deals with this complex and far-reaching problem. For more information, please visit <http://www.nnedv.org>.

The National Network to End Domestic Violence Fund

The National Network to End Domestic Violence Fund (NNEDV Fund) is a 501(c)(3) organization that provides technical assistance, training and public education to advocates, professionals and individuals who encountered battered women in their work and communities. NNEDV Fund has provided advice and expertise on domestic violence issues affecting battered women and their children to judges, attorneys, educators and state and local welfare, justice system personnel, and others working to end domestic violence. NNEDV Fund provides technical assistance to states as they work with police, judges and prosecutors to enforce protection orders. NNEDV Fund also collaborates with state and national domestic violence, law enforcement and other criminal justice organizations to provide training, outreach and standards for protection orders. NNEDV Fund is the leading national voice on the criminal justice response to victims of domestic violence. For more information, please visit <http://www.nnedv.org>.

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