



Community Lodgings, Inc.

"Opening Doors to Independence Since 1987"

LEAP GRANT AWARDS \$10,000 TO COMMUNITY LODGINGS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALEXANDRIA, VA / Oct. 14, 2008 – On Tuesday, The HSC Foundation honored beneficiaries of this year's Life Enrichment Awards Program (LEAP) at the Kennedy Center. In 2008, Community Lodgings received a \$10,000 LEAP grant which is given to organizations that provide goods and services directly linked to youth transitions. CLI is using the funds to assist several disadvantaged students in the Arlandria community of Alexandria. Through the grant we are providing: tuition and academic books for Susana Sosa, a 19 year-old nursing student; a laptop, design software and a private graphic art tutor for Thomas Sosa, a 16 year-old student; and Basic Electric courses at the National Association of Power Engineers as well as ESL classes for Rudy Navarro, a 24 year-old father.

In 2002, Community Lodgings introduced the Youth Education Program to counter gang influence and raise local families from poverty. The vital service has three objectives: to improve student scores in core academic curriculum; to decrease at-risk behavior in the community; and to provide educational courses and workshops for parents and family members of participating students.

About Community Lodgings:

Founded in 1987, Community Lodgings' mission is to lift families from homelessness and instability to independence and self-sufficiency through our Transitional and Affordable Housing Programs, and Youth and Adult Education Programs held at the Fifer Family Learning Center. Over 250 lives are touched per week by Community Lodgings' services which include – but are not limited to – subsidized housing, intensive counseling, education workshops, and emergency support. For more information please visit www.communitylodgings.org.

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