

NEWS RELEASE

January 27, 2009 / For Immediate Release

Contact: Bea Black, Executive Director, Women's and Children's Alliance,
343-3688, ext. 12, bblack@wcaboise.org

Mindy Peper, Public Relations, 369-1994, mindypeper@hotmail.com

ALBERTSON FOUNDATION GRANT WILL HELP WITH OPERATIONAL COSTS

Boise, ID – A recent grant of \$25,000 from the J.A. and Katherine Albertson Foundation will help cover the basic operational costs of shelters and transitional homes in the Treasure Valley. The Women's and Children's Alliance operates the homes and provides safe shelter to women and their children escaping domestic and sexual violence.

"Operational costs for our main shelter are over \$30,000 per month," said Bea Black, Executive Director of the WCA. "These generous funds from the Foundation will help us meet some of the basic needs of running a shelter."

Two members from the Albertson Foundation came to the WCA for the "If These Walls Could Talk" informational tour. "The tour puts a face to the work being done by our organization," said Susan Kelley, Development Director at the WCA. "Through the tour we are able to share with the community the reality of the struggles these victims face every day and how our programs help them build safe, independent lives for themselves and their families."

After the tour the two staff members returned to the Foundation board and made a presentation, which resulted in the grant.

Last year the WCA provided approximately 15,000 safe bed nights to 316 women and their children. About 75% of women who come to the WCA bring children with them. The secure shelter provides refuge for 3 to 4 months and the transitional homes prepare women and their children to re-enter the community successfully and safely.

About WCA: Established in 1980, the Women's and Children's Alliance provides safe shelter, education, opportunity, and hope to victims of domestic or sexual violence. The WCA operates secure shelters and transitional homes, while also providing professional counseling, legal advocacy, outreach, and crisis services to women and children. For more information visit www.wcaboise.org.

###