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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Homeward Transfers Certificate Program to VCU's Nonprofit Learning Point

Richmond, VA – Virginia Commonwealth University Division of Community Engagement's Nonprofit Learning Point (NLP) and Homeward, the Greater Richmond region's planning and coordinating agency for homeless services, have announced the formal transition of Homeward's Case Management Certificate Program to NLP, effective fall of 2009.

"The two year case management certificate pilot program at Homeward has been very successful," said Kelly King Horne, Executive Director at Homeward. "With 25 regional case managers earning a full certificate and more than thirty others completing a large portion of the required classes, we know with certainty that this is a valuable community training opportunity. We believe that transferring this program into Nonprofit Learning Point will give it the opportunity to grow and be incorporated into an established educational program."

Nonprofit Learning Point, formerly Especially for Nonprofits, celebrates its 14th anniversary this year, and is poised to advance its educational offerings. More than 5,500 students from nearly 2,000 local organizations have received training through NLP's intensive workshops. Of these students, 190 have earned a Certificate of Achievement in Nonprofit Management.

The program content will remain largely the same as Homeward's offerings, with the format of the trainings transitioning to three, two-day trainings. Nonprofit Learning Point will offer one elective course in case management per semester (fall, spring, and summer). Additionally, to reach a broader audience, the content will expand its focus from case management for those who are experiencing homelessness to the case management for those who are living in poverty.

Homeward will continue to grant program certificates to students who complete the NLP case management coursework. Students will also have the option of taking additional NLP classes toward the Nonprofit Management Certificate.

Registration and additional details are available at www.nonprofitlearningpoint.org or www.homewardva.org.

About Homeward

With more than 1,000 homeless children, single adults and families at a given point in time in Greater Richmond, Homeward is the regional catalyst to research, report and coordinate resources for people experiencing homelessness. In collaboration with regional partners in the City of Richmond and the counties of Chesterfield, Henrico, Hanover, New Kent, Powhatan, Charles City and Goochland, Homeward facilitates service provider trainings, client resource fairs, and conducts twice yearly 'point-in-time' counts of those at-risk and who are currently in the sheltered and unsheltered population. In 2008 Homeward launched the Ten Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in the Richmond Region. For more information on Homeward, visit www.homewardva.org.

About Nonprofit Learning Point

A kinetic, community-based educational program, NLP offers high-quality, relevant, and affordable courses in all aspects of nonprofit management. Our goal is to be a resource to the nonprofit sector, and to that end, we offer classes and conferences geared towards the greater Richmond nonprofit community's specific needs.

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