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For Immediate Release

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The Next Door Wins National Criminal Justice Association Outstanding Criminal Justice Program Award

The Next Door, Inc. was recognized as an outstanding criminal justice program by the National Criminal Justice Association at the National Forum on Criminal Justice and Public Safety held in Louisville, Kentucky earlier this month.

The Next Door is a faith-based organization in Nashville, dedicated to helping women with co-occurring disorders who are in crisis and equipping them to develop lives of wholeness and hope.

“The Next Door is a perfect example of how leveraging local, state and federal funds can work to positively impact the lives of women who are reentering our communities from time spent incarcerated,” said Patricia Dishman, director of the Tennessee Office of Criminal Justice Programs. “By supplying transitional living, mental health counseling and the life skills that is necessary to resume their lives, The Next Door provides a critical and valuable service.”

The Next Door has two locations, a residential transitional center, located in the heart of downtown Nashville, and a permanent housing complex not far from the center of the city. In each location, women are part of a supportive program that strives to move them from lives of poor choices and a sense of helplessness to productive, independent living.

The Next Door is funded by the Federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program.

The NCJA Outstanding Criminal Justice Program Awards are a way to seek out and share successful criminal justice programs. The purpose of these awards is to highlight programs that:

- Address an important criminal justice issue;
- Demonstrate effectiveness based on program goals;
- Are a good example of used of federal funds to initiate the program; and
- Can be easily replicated in other jurisdictions.

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