

News Release

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Safeway Employee Sarah Burt Honored for Friendship Shelter Volunteerism

LAGUNA BEACH, Calif., Nov. 8, 2005 – Safeway employee Sarah Burt has been honored with the Safeway Community Hero Award for eight years of volunteer service with Friendship Shelter, an Orange County homeless rehabilitation program and emergency shelter.



Safeway, which owns Vons and Pavilions grocery markets, established the award “to acknowledge employees who give above and beyond their regular jobs at Safeway and to also give back to the organization in which they serve.” Joe Lemire, District Manager for North Orange County Vons, and Vons District Manager Andy Smith presented Burt with a framed certificate, bouquet, and lapel pin. She is one of 16 Safeway employees selected by the company’s board from throughout the Southern California division to receive the annual award, which includes a check for \$1,000 to Friendship Shelter.

Burt, a Rancho Santa Margarita resident, works as a Vons administrative assistant in one of two Orange County district offices. Eight years ago, she decided to make a difference by volunteering in a meaningful way. She found the perfect fit working the desk at Friendship Shelter, entering data in the computers and answering phones for few hours each week.

“Sarah’s longstanding commitment to Friendship Shelter has been a wonderful and generous gift,” said Friendship Shelter Executive Director Janet Larkly. “After so many years here, she really knows the ropes at the shelter -- a highly prized virtue. We

are so grateful to Safeway Corporation for this gift, and for recognizing Sarah's dependability and steadfastness as a volunteer."

Founded in 1988, Friendship Shelter provides housing, a variety of support services, and a comprehensive rehabilitation program to homeless adults. It is the only year-round emergency shelter in south Orange County for homeless unaccompanied adults. For more information about Friendship Shelter and ways to become involved, contact Executive Director Janet Larkly at (949) 494-6928 or www.friendshipshelter.org

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