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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Daily Points of Light Award to be Presented at the
Volunteer Center of Rhode Island's Annual Meeting
- Secretary of State Matt Brown will be featured speaker -**

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (April 19, 2004) – As part of the annual meeting of the Volunteer Center of Rhode Island (VCRI), Doreen Holmes, of Cranston, RI will be honored with a Daily Points of Light Award. She is one of only six people from Rhode Island to win this national award since its inception in 1989.

VCRI's annual meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 26 from 4:30 – 6 p.m. at the Rhode Island Community Food Bank in Providence. Secretary of State Matt Brown will be on hand to speak about why he feels volunteers are important to Rhode Island. New board members and officers will be inducted during the meeting also.

The Daily Points of Light Award honors individuals and volunteer groups that have made a commitment to connect Americans through service to help meet critical needs in their communities. Each weekday, one volunteer or volunteer effort in the country receives a Daily Points of Light Award.

Doreen Holmes is the volunteer coordinator for St. Patrick's Soup Kitchen, and one of its biggest supporters. She has been volunteering for the soup kitchen for 13 years, and spends every Monday evening there. Her work ensures that at least one night a week the critical needs of people going to St. Patrick's for help are met. The mission of St. Patrick's is to provide hot food, clothing and spiritual encouragement to those in need. Holmes' hard work and dedication helps to carry out that mission.

Kelly Nevins, executive director at VCRI, said "We are thrilled to be able to present Doreen with a Daily Points of Light Award during our annual meeting. It is the dedicated work of volunteers like Doreen that makes VCRI proud to serve Rhode Island as an advocate, supporter and promoter of volunteerism."

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Also during the meeting, new board members and officers for VCRI will be inducted. They include:

New officers:

President: Wayne Long, of Westboro, Mass., senior vice president of mortgage banking, BankNewport

Vice President: Lisa Coble, of Saunderstown, manager of volunteer services, Newport Hospital

Vice President: Mark Felag, of Barrington, chief civil engineer, Department of Transportation

Vice President: John Gorman, of Portsmouth, vice president for planning, Blue Cross Blue Shield of RI

Secretary: Guido Sarcione, of Cumberland, managing associate for OceanState Financial Services

Treasurer: Valerie Leduc, of Harrisville, director of administration, Chelos

New board members:

Guy Pickering, of Lincoln, senior manager of development, Fidelity Investments

Dr. Anthony Kazlauskas, of East Greenwich, regional medical executive, United Healthcare

Dick Fox, of Cumberland, retired

Joseph Schab, of Canton, Mass., director of client marketing, UPN 28

About the Volunteer Center of Rhode Island

The mission of the Volunteer Center of Rhode Island is to connect people and opportunities for effective volunteer community service. This is done by promoting volunteerism statewide, connecting volunteers to community needs, building the capacity for effective volunteerism through training and consultation, and by collaborating with community stakeholders where volunteers are involved. For more information visit www.vcri.org or call 421-6547.

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