



## Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence

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### Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence receives Project Bread Grant Award

**BOSTON, MA - October 17, 2008** - The Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence (ATASK) is pleased to announce that Project Bread has awarded its Emergency Shelter Food Program with a \$5,000 grant dedicated to providing food for shelter residence.

With the help of Project Bread, ATASK is able to purchase basic staples for communal use (rice, salt, flour) and distribute supermarket gift cards to unemployed clients. Shelter guests prepare their own food using the groceries they purchase and supplies available in the shelter kitchen. "We find this system to be most effective," stated Cristina Lee, Assistant Director of Advocacy Services at ATASK. "As most of our clients are Asian immigrant women, this system gives them the ability to prepare meals for their families that are appropriate to their own cultures and tastes."

Since 1994, ATASK has operated New England's only multilingual shelter, advocacy services, education programs, and outreach for Asian domestic violence survivors. ATASK's 17-bed Emergency Shelter offers clients a welcoming and culturally sensitive environment, and provides a 24-hour multilingual hotline, crisis intervention, and temporary housing. In fiscal year 2008, ATASK provided shelter to 37 adults and 26 children and handled 540 hotline calls. Staffed by three full-time employees and part-time overnight and weekend staff, ATASK provided over 30,000 free meals to clients this past year.

Project Bread's Appreciation and Grant Award Ceremony was held on Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel. Elizabeth Vittum, ATASK's Director of Development, was present at the award ceremony. "I was extremely moved by Project Bread's ceremony and all of the honorees who spoke of their dedication to Project Bread and helping feed the Hungry throughout Massachusetts. I am grateful to Project Bread for their support."

Project Bread's Walk for Hunger was held on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and celebrated the organization's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. More than 40,000 walkers raised over 4 million dollars to support hungry families throughout Massachusetts. ATASK's staff participated in the 20-mile walk and contributed to the event's fundraising efforts.

### About the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence

The Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence (ATASK) features New England's only multilingual emergency shelter and services for Asian survivors of domestic violence and their children. ATASK will celebrate its 15<sup>th</sup> annual benefit, the *Silk Road Gala*, on Saturday, November 15, from 5:00PM to 9:30PM at the Boston Marriott Copley Place Hotel. The event will support ATASK's unique, multilingual emergency shelter and advocacy programs that serve and support over 400 clients and handle over 7,200 advocacy calls annually. ATASK's education and outreach initiatives benefit thousands of people each year, through an increased awareness of domestic violence, survivors' resources, and cultural competency.

## **About the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Silk Road Gala 2008**

*Silk Road Gala* co-chairs are Mr. Lawrence K. Fish, Chairman of Citizens Financial Group and RBS Americas, and Ms. Regina M. Pisa, Chairman and Managing Partner of Goodwin Procter LLP. This year's gala will honor ATASK staff for their hard work and relentless dedication in serving survivors of domestic violence since its founding 16 years ago. For sponsorship and ticket information, please contact Kozue Sawame at 617-338-2350 x232 or at [kozue@atask.org](mailto:kozue@atask.org), or visit [www.atask.org/silkroad.php](http://www.atask.org/silkroad.php).