



March 24, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Anne M. Janeski
Marketing and Communications Manager
Direct – 703-746-5646
anne.janeski@alexandriava.gov

DASH General Manager Sandy Modell Honored at 2010 Salute to Women

(Alexandria, VA) The Alexandria Commission of Women has selected Alexandria Transit (DASH) General Manager, Sandy Modell as the recipient of this year's Salute to Women Leadership in Business and Career Development Award. The award was presented at its 30th annual awards banquet on March 22, which was held in conjunction with Women's History Month. The event honors individuals who have been change agents in the community and have made a significant impact on women and girls living or working in Alexandria. Sixteen women were nominated for their contributions to the City of Alexandria and the community. Ms. Modell was one of nine women chosen in a number of categories depicting their contributions.

Sandy Modell was honored for leading the DASH bus system for over 20 years, and during her tenure, opening doors to women in various capacities within the organization. When Modell was appointed as the General Manager of DASH in 1989, she became one of only three female transit managers in the entire country. At industry meetings, she was usually the only woman in the room. There were relatively few women working at DASH when she first arrived - only three women drivers and no supervisors. Modell decided that in order to bring more women into the workplace, the position requirements would need to be changed. She decided to make hiring more inclusive by expanding the bus operator job requirements. As a result of her efforts, there are now twenty women drivers, six women supervisors and managers, and a parts manager who is female. In the transit community and in the Alexandria community, Modell is considered a leader, and she has made a lasting impact on the hiring practices for women in her field.

Anne M. Janeski
Marketing & Communications Mgr.
3000 Business Center Drive
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-746-5646
Fax: 703-746-5641

