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Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

Taking Action to End Poverty

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
July 7, 2008

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National Antipoverty Center Seeks Asset-Building Advocate

(Chicago)- Dory Rand, former supervising attorney of the Community Investment Unit at the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, has accepted a position as president of the Woodstock Institute, a Chicago-based policy and advocacy nonprofit that works locally, nationally, and internationally to promote community reinvestment and economic development in lower-income and minority communities. The Shriver Center plans to continue its efforts to address poverty through asset-building initiatives with a nationwide search for an advocate to continue and expand the work of the Community Investment Unit.

For the past 12 years, Dory Rand has dedicated herself to the Shriver Center's mission to end poverty by promoting asset building. Starting with the banking and financial literacy issues that emerged when the State of Illinois began to provide food stamps to low-income households through the use of debit cards in the mid-1990's, Rand built and led what eventually became the Center's Community Investment Unit.

The Shriver Center is extremely proud of Rand's effective leadership in advancing the Center's efforts and expanding her community investment work throughout the years. During her tenure, she led the Financial Links for Low Income People coalition and program of financial literacy and matched savings accounts. As part of CFED's SEED Initiative, she helped over 60 students in Chicago's Bronzeville neighborhood save \$120,000 toward their college savings. This demonstration project laid the groundwork for unanimous passage of legislation to create a Children's Savings Account Task Force in Illinois in 2007. Rand also took on a founding and leading role in the Illinois Asset Building Group.

Asset building is a vital component of the Shriver Center's [12-point National Agenda](#). For each policy idea, the agenda cites opportunities for action that all antipoverty advocates can take on both the federal and state levels. In 2008, the Shriver Center hopes to expand asset-building opportunities to complement traditional income-support programs, promote policies that encourage investment in unbanked and undeserved communities, and protect consumers against abusive consumer and mortgage lending. Persons interested in applying for the Center's open attorney position can find the job announcement at www.povertylaw.org.

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The Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, a national resource, champions law and policy promoting equal opportunity and support for low-income individuals, families, and communities so that they can escape poverty permanently.