

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria government is committed to its values of respect, responsibility, teamwork, communication, diversity and leadership and has instituted a City Star! Employee Award to honor individual employees or groups of employees who exemplify the City's values; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to recognize Anna Taraki for her fifteen years of exceptional work for the Department of Human Services as a Senior Eligibility Worker, because she shows respect and compassion for some of the most vulnerable citizens in our community - those in need of Medicaid services; and

WHEREAS, the Human Services Department has received numerous letters of appreciation from nursing homes and families expressing their gratitude for her hard work, dedication, and warm, friendly manner; and

WHEREAS, through her education in Czech Republic and work experience in Afghanistan, she has achieved exceptional communication skills including the ability to speak six other languages in addition to English, thereby furthering her capacity to assist a wide range of clients and to support other agencies with translation and thus also demonstrating the diversity and competence of the City's work force; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Taraki receives high praises from outside agencies for her prompt attention to their particular requests for assistance, by corresponding constantly with lawyers, government workers, and nursing home facilities to explain the correct procedures for completing complicated Medicaid forms and clearing up Federal guidelines, thus aiding those individuals and institutions in obtaining essential medical services for their clients in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Taraki keeps City agencies informed of their need to assist their clients with proper documentation in order for them to receive benefits and, on her own initiative, volunteers to meet with new City employees to provide them with appropriate training on Medicaid benefits and procedures to better service the City's customers; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Taraki's judicious management of her caseload was instrumental in the City's effort to become the first local government in Northern Virginia to complete Map-122 forms with COLA for the past four years to facilitate Medicaid recipients retaining part of their income to pay for essential equipment including electric wheelchairs, communication devices, hearing aids and eyeglasses which may not be covered by Medicaid;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim that a City Stars! Employee Award be bestowed on:

"MRS. ANNA TARAKI"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 10th day of January 2006.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR
*On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk