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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM CARSA*****

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CARSA HIRES AMY EVANS AS COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

(Portland, Oregon) In its efforts to mobilize neighborhoods and communities to help make the Portland area drug-free, CARSA (Community Action to Reduce Substance Abuse) has announced the hiring of Amy Evans as its first Community Outreach Coordinator.

CARSA, an outgrowth of the 25 Cities Initiative launched in August, 2003 and funded by a federal Drug Free Communities Support Grant, is comprised of Portland area leaders in government, business, law enforcement, and community advocacy.



Its primary focus is to change public opinion and attitudes so that the abuse of drugs and alcohol is unacceptable.

“Having worked in prevention, I have seen coalitions make a positive and lasting impact in the lives of youth and community members,” said Evans. “By working together, individual contributions are compounded to create a better community for everyone.”

Evans will also serve as Community Outreach Coordinator for Oregon Partnership, a statewide non-profit raising awareness about drug and alcohol issues, providing prevention education, and operating 24-7 crisis lines. In this role, Evans will provide support and networking opportunities to other Drug Free Community grantees throughout Oregon.

Coming to CARSA from Springfield, Missouri where she held the position of Grants Administrator at Community Partnership of the Ozarks, Evans also oversaw multi-media prevention campaigns and taught best practice substance abuse prevention curriculums.

The Missouri native served in the U.S. Peace Corps in Kingston, Jamaica from 2000-2002 where she trained students and teachers on environmental issues. She received a Master of Arts in Communication at Drury University and a Bachelor of Arts at Truman State University.

CARSA is helping to administer and execute the Portland City-Wide Drug Strategy, which was approved by the Portland City Council earlier this year.