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**Cocktails & Clothes Reception at Hotel Valley Ho Raises \$15,000 for AWEE & Helps Replenish AWEE's Clothing Boutique**

**PHOENIX, Ariz. (April 24, 2008)** – The annual Cocktails & Clothes reception, held on April 22 at the Hotel Valley Ho in Scottsdale, was the most successful ever, raising nearly \$15,000 for Arizona Women's Education & Employment (AWEE). This is a \$5,000 increase over the revenues generated by last year's event.

Cocktails & Clothes offered attendees an opportunity for fabulous networking, exciting raffle prizes and a live auction. The highly anticipated event was held to replenish AWEE's Clothing Boutique, which provides women with appropriate attire for job interviews and the workplace. Attendees were asked to donate gently-worn professional clothes that had been pressed and then placed on hangers. They were also invited to donate a gift certificate for the Cocktails & Clothes raffle. The MidFirst Bank Fundraising Van, which collects coins for charity, was on-hand accepting spare change. MidFirst Bank matched the coin donations, which totaled \$200.

Cocktails & Clothes was orchestrated by "Friends of AWEE," a group of dedicated volunteers from the real estate industry led by co-chairs Judi Butterworth of DeRito Partners Inc. and Phyllis Dumond of Empire Title Agency of Arizona. The event sponsors were Empire Title Agency of Arizona LLC, Millennium Properties & Development Inc., DMB Realty, TWC Construction, Westcor and Gust Rosenfeld.

Arizona Women's Education & Employment (AWEE) has been changing lives through the dignity of work since 1981. AWEE has been successfully investing in women, families and this community through life and career success planning, training and support. To date, they have served and supported nearly 50,000 individuals in their quest to attain quality jobs that create positive changes and successful beginnings for themselves and their families. For more information, please contact AWEE at (602) 223-4345 or visit AWEE.org.

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