



Brenda Blisk, CFP®, is a Finalist for Washington Business Journals' 2008 Philanthropy Awards

McLean, VA - Brenda Blisk, founder and CEO of the Blisk Financial Group (www.bliskfinancialgroup.com), has been selected as a finalist by the *Washington Business Journal* for its 2008 Philanthropy Awards. Blisk is a finalist in the category of CEO Leadership Award for Small Business.

In his announcement, Alex Orfinger, publisher of the *Washington Business Journal*, said "The awards are designed to honor the region's most active and inspiring companies and CEOs." Finalists will be recognized at a luncheon on June 17 at the Four Season's Hotel and five award-winners will be announced.

She has practiced philanthropy for 25 years

Blisk believes in practicing what she preaches. So many people have helped me, and I take to heart II Corinthians 9:7: "God loves a cheerful giver." For more than 25 years, Blisk has set aside a percentage of her income to donate to her church and local charities.

She regularly supports non-profit groups in the metropolitan Washington community, including the Lombardi Cancer Center at Georgetown University, the Ronald McDonald House Charities, the Autism Learning Center, Fairfax Community Learning Centers Partnership, Charity Works, Joe Gibbs' Youth for Tomorrow and Training Futures. Also, she supports the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Reston, Virginia, and the Lutheran World Missions.

She also donates her time and talents

In June 2007, Brenda hosted a private educational briefing for her clients, attorneys and CPAs to encourage them to plan for charitable giving through private family foundations. She invited Debbie Wargo, Executive Director of the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Washington, D.C., to speak at the event.

On other occasions, Brenda has sponsored educational medical seminars. For example, she brought in a leading holistic gynecologist to speak about life changes for women. The 'admission' was in the form of a donation to the Lombardi Cancer Center. She has provided free income and estate planning seminars for seniors at local libraries and at her church. She was also a corporate sponsor for an event to benefit the Fairfax Community Learning Centers Partnership.

This spring, Blisk hired a woman from the women's shelter. The woman came to the Blisk Financial Group through Training Futures, a 25-week clerical job training and placement program that enables unemployed and underemployed people to develop the skills they need to succeed in office employment. The woman was working three part-time jobs to support her three children, aged two, five and seven. Now she has a stable, full-time job with benefits at Brenda's office.

Blisk is active on the Outreach Board of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. The activities include preparing and sending care packages to our troops overseas. At Christmas they sent more than 80 Christmas packages to U.S. troops – two squadrons in Baghdad and one squadron in Africa. The troops in Africa shared their packages with a nearby orphanage, housing children whose parents have died from AIDS. Blisk says, they are planning a project for the children at the orphanage later this year.

About Brenda Blisk:

Brenda Blisk is founder and CEO of the Blisk Financial Group of Spire Wealth Management, LLC, a Federally Registered Investment Advisory Firm. She was named one of Barron's Top 100 Women Financial Advisors in 2007. To read more about Blisk's awards, visit her Website, www.bliskfinancialgroup.com.