

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FIRST COMMAND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
ANNOUNCES SAMARITAN HOUSE SCHOLARSHIPS**

Samaritan House in concert with First Command Educational Foundation is pleased to announce that it will award two college scholarships in conjunction with Samaritan House's upcoming Hoops 'n Harmony event. The scholarship awards, \$3000 each, will go to high school juniors or seniors who attend the September 8 event, which will include a three-on-three age-bracketed basketball tournament, an HIV/AIDS-oriented health fair, and a music program hosted by K104 disc jockey Sam Putnam. Hoops 'n Harmony will take place at the Fort Worth Convention Center, beginning at 9:00 a.m.; basketball team age brackets will range from ten-year-olds and under to adults.

Scholarship recipients will be chosen on the basis of need; preference will be given to children of Samaritan House clients. Applications will be available at Hoops 'n Harmony at the First Command Educational Foundation booth, and must be returned to Samaritan House, and must be postmarked no later than November 10, 2007.

Selections will be made by December 10; awards are to be announced on December 14. Scholarship funds will be sent directly to the educational institution of the recipient's choice.

Hoops 'n Harmony is sponsored and produced by Samaritan House and a broad coalition of community and church leaders, as a way of reaching out to the African-American community to educate families about the alarming rise in the HIV infection rate in this segment of the population.

Samaritan House, which provides service-enriched housing to 330 people who are either infected or affected by HIV/AIDS or other special needs, was founded in 1993. In the past year, the agency's facility has expanded to include apartments for families with children. The organization works intensively with its residents as they struggle to rebuild their lives. Proceeds from Hoops 'n Harmony will benefit Samaritan House programs.

Attached is a press release with more detailed information about Hoops 'n Harmony. For more information about the Samaritan House scholarships, please contact Tonya Veasey (817.705.5544, tonya@openchannelsgroup.com).