

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**December 29, 2009**

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**The Beehive Collective to Donate \$23,000 to two Raleigh non-profits serving  
homeless and ex-offender populations**

*Young people's giving circle funds the Raleigh/Wake Partnership to End and Prevent  
Homelessness and Community Success Initiative.*

The Beehive Collective, a group of more than 50 young women and men recently gathered together in Raleigh to cast their votes for the beneficiaries of The Beehive Collective's second grant cycle. After hearing about the five finalist non-profits last week, Beehive Collective members voted to donate \$10,000 to the Raleigh/Wake Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness and \$13,000 to Community Success Initiative.

"We are excited that by coming together and pooling our resources, the Beehive Collective is positioning itself to make a significant impact in Raleigh," said Elizabeth Alley, co-chair of The Beehive Collective. "Giving away more than \$20,000 is going to make a real difference in the lives of the homeless and formerly incarcerated in our community."

It was only May of 2008 that The Beehive Collective launched as a young women's giving circle in Raleigh, with the goals of building community and leadership while making an impact on critical issues in Raleigh.

Building on a successful first year of giving, the Beehive Collective received 23 competitive grant proposals from non-profits in Raleigh working towards greater economic security. From membership contributions and several fundraisers throughout the year, the Collective raised \$23,000 to give away. Amidst the greatest economic downturn since the Great Depression and the unemployment rate in Wake County hitting nearly 9 percent, The Beehive Collective funds are well-timed to serve a community in need.

The Raleigh/Wake Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness will receive \$10,000 to support its Faith Community Support Circle Program. This innovative project trains and engages faith congregations in Wake County to form Support Circles consisting of 6-10 volunteers from each congregation to support a homeless family as they move from a homeless shelter into permanent housing. The Support Circles assist the family in the following areas: furnishing their apartment/house; gaining employment; life skills

training; obtaining day care; budget counseling; obtaining medical care; tutoring the children; and regaining much needed stability in their lives.

“The Beehive Collective’s funds are critically timed and will enable us to support 4-5 homeless families in Raleigh over the next year,” said Rick Miller-Haraway with the Raleigh/Wake Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness. “And, their investment in us will result in a 3-to-1 match from the City of Raleigh and the Support Circle congregation. It’s a big bang for their buck.”

Community Success Initiative, which is a Raleigh non-profit that assists ex-offenders and people with criminal records transition back to society and fully integrate as engaged, self-sufficient citizens is set to receive \$13,000 to support their work in serving mothers who have criminal records and/or have served prison time. The grant will be used to support the job readiness, mentoring and coaching that Community Success Initiative will provide to 20 women ex-offenders in their program.

“We are excited to use the Collective's funds to focus more intentionally on the female ex-offender population,” added Dennis Gaddy, Executive Director of Community Success Initiative. “Mothers coming out of the prison system face an array of challenges, from reintegrating with their families to finding steady work.”

The Beehive Collective is excited to see both projects progress through 2010 and they plan to contribute some sweat equity as volunteers for the Raleigh/Wake Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness and Community Success Initiative.

#### About the Beehive Collective:

The Beehive Collective is a group of more than 50 young people in Raleigh – mostly women – that pools our talents and resources to raise meaningful amounts of money for the causes we care about. We each contribute one half percent of our annual income to The Beehive Collective’s grants program, and commit to raise additional money through our own special brand of fun and quirky fundraising events. We are artists, lawyers, designers, bar tenders, engineers, small business owners, musicians, activists, educators, and many more who know that together we are more than the sum of our parts. We all have talent, energy and creativity to give, and we are committed to building a stronger and more just community in Raleigh while democratizing philanthropy, building young people’s leadership, and having as much fun as possible.

Learn more and join us at [www.thebeehivecollective.org](http://www.thebeehivecollective.org)

For more information on the grant recipients:

Raleigh/Wake Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness:  
[www.raleighnc.gov/endinghomelessness](http://www.raleighnc.gov/endinghomelessness)

Community Success Initiative: [www.communitysuccess.org](http://www.communitysuccess.org).

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