



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

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Essence of Humanity Award Program
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**Crispus Attucks Honors Bettie Cunningham through
Essence of Humanity Award Program**

Lancaster, Pa. (January 15, 2008) – Crispus Attucks Community Center (CACC) on Monday will honor Bettie Cunningham of Lancaster through the Essence of Humanity Award Program. The awards will be presented to Mrs. Cunningham at CACC's 21st Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast to be held Monday, January 19, from 7-9 a.m. at Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology. More than 600 members and leaders of the Lancaster community are expected to attend the event.

The Essence of Humanity Award is intended to recognize individuals who, beyond the requirements of their work, demonstrate remarkable human qualities including courage, love, strength, determination, and persistence when dealing with adversity. The award also honors those who demonstrate a spirit of caring and provide inspiration to such individuals on a daily basis.

About Bettie Cunningham:

Born in 1929 and raised in Lancaster City, Bettie Cunningham still lives in the same neighborhood, and this angel of the community has devoted herself to helping others live a healthy and happy life. Mrs. Cunningham is a retired social worker from the School District of Lancaster, having worked there for some 20 years. A member of the Bethel AME church, Mrs. Cunningham volunteers for many activities there including the Bethel Food Bank. She routinely brings expert speakers to the church to provide wellness-related workshops for senior citizens. In the community at large, she focuses her efforts on finding shelter for the homeless, encouraging children to attend

school and study seriously, and volunteering at the polls on Election Day. She visits shut-ins, offering them prayer and comfort. She also volunteers her time to work in the kitchen of the Domestic Violence Women's Shelter.

About Essence of Humanity

There seems to be consensus that as a culture, we often can't identify enough role models. The intent of the Essence of Humanity Award is to elevate the stories of the inspirational role models that indeed do exist in our communities. The program began in 2001 when business and community leaders in South-Central Pennsylvania established the Essence of Humanity Award. The award is presented by participating organizations in collaboration with the Essence of Humanity program's steering committee, which evaluates the nominations. For more information, contact Robin Stauffer, Executive Director, at 717-293-4498, or visit the website at www.essenceofhumanity.org.

About Crispus Attucks Community Center

The mission of Crispus Attucks Community Center is to improve the quality of life for residents, provide services to disadvantaged people, bridge cultural and educational gaps that exist, and preserve the African American heritage in the community. More information is available at www.cacc-lancaster.org.

About CACC's 21st Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast:

- Monday, January 19, 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, Lancaster
- Call 394-6604, ext. 120 for more information

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Note to journalists: Photos of the award recipients will be available Monday, January 19, following the award presentation. Contact Laura Duran & Associates (laura@lauraduranPR.com) to request photos.