



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Crispus Attucks Honors Two Remarkable Individuals through Essence of Humanity Award Program

Lancaster, Pa. (January 17, 2008) – Crispus Attucks Community Center (CACC) on Monday will honor two remarkable individuals through the Essence of Humanity Award Program. The awards will be presented to Emily Marbury of Marietta and Freda Hall Stewart of Lancaster at CACC's 20th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast to be held Monday, January 21, from 7-9 a.m. at Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology.

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.

Award recipients:

Emily Marbury of Marietta, Pa.

Emily Marbury first was inspired to care for the sick and dying at age 13, when her mother encouraged her to help tend to a dying neighbor. The years that followed would include significant health and family crises for Mrs. Marbury, including surviving several bouts with cancer and suffering through her father's incarceration. She would show incredible courage and faith in God while enduring these hardships, "applying the wisdom she gained from these experiences to help others in need," says Cheryl Holland Jones, executive director of Crispus Attucks, "which is the

primary reason for this nomination.” Mrs. Marbury became a hospice worker in 1976 and worked in the field for 31 years. Beginning in 1985, she provided 16 years of care to her sister Lavinia, an HIV/AIDS patient who passed away in 2001. Today, as the owner of an agency called Village Care Givers, which she founded in 2004, Mrs. Marbury and her 24 employees, whom she trains, provide home health care for ill and dying clients who wish to remain in the comfort of their own homes. Following surgery and chemotherapy in 2005 for yet another experience with cancer, and currently suffering from fibromyalgia, this passionate and vital woman has faith that God has allowed her to remain on this earth “to make it easier for people to cross over,” namely, to die with dignity and respect.

Freda Hall Stewart of Lancaster, Pa.

Since losing her son Tyquan to gun violence outside a house party on South Prince Street in early 2007, Freda Hall Stewart has become a noted community activist making a difference in the fight against gun violence and gang activity in Lancaster. She has identified several effective ways to reduce violence, and last fall organized a march in which 400 citizens, including public officials, participated. Of the march, Mrs. Stewart said, “The whole County should have been here. Because this is about saving their children. It’s everybody’s children. And everybody’s children is our children. And that’s what this message is about. If we can just save one kid, then I feel that we’ve accomplished something.” According to Cheryl Holland Jones, executive director of Crispus Attucks, Mrs. Stewart epitomizes the definition of the Essence of Humanity Award. “She has overcome one of the worst possible scenarios for a parent – losing a child to senseless violence. She has become an inspiration to others as she strives to bring people together to address a common cause, saving other people’s children as a result.”

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 20th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast:

Continuing the Dream: Creating a Healthy Community

- Monday, January 21, 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, Lancaster
- Keynote Speaker: Dr. David Satcher, former U.S. Surgeon General
- 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 21, following the award presentation. Contact Laura Duran Public Relations (laura@lauraduranPR.com) to request photos.