

For Immediate Release

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## PAY IT FORWARD: REALTORS® continue generosity from others to help Dove Recovery House Emergency grant pays forward previous gift from Colts owner Jim Irsay

INDIANAPOLIS – Near the end of 2010, the REALTOR® Foundation was \$20,000 short on reaching its \$100,000 fundraising goal to provide grants to local homelessness organizations. Through community support, and one very special tweet for \$5,000 from Indianapolis Colts Owner Jim Irsay, the Foundation reached its goal and was able to provide more than \$100,000 to charities earlier this year.

Now, it's the REALTOR® Foundation's turn to pay it forward.

When the Dove Recovery House lost its U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding in January, the organization expected to close its doors this month. However, through the generosity of the community, including an emergency \$5,000 grant from the REALTOR® Foundation, the Dove Recovery house has received enough funds to continue operations through at least 2013.

"The REALTOR® Foundation is thrilled to have the ability to pay forward the incredible support our own organization has received from central Indiana and the Irsay family and the Indianapolis Colts to a charity like the Dove Recovery House," said Joyce Scotten, 2011 Foundation president. "Their work — giving women in difficult situations a place to call home — is critical to our community."

The Dove Recovery House provides transitional housing for adult women wanting to end drug or alcohol addictions, many of whom are homeless. The organization provides its residents with substance abuse recovery programs, educational opportunities and employment referral. Residents must be employed within three weeks of signing a lease with the Dove Recovery House and must agree to stay with the program for a minimum of 90 days. Currently, the organization houses 16 residents, but it can hold up to 23 women.

With the \$5,000 emergency grant from the REALTOR® Foundation, the Dove Recovery House will be able to make additional rent assistance available to women who cannot afford to pay the full \$100 per week rent while they seek employment. Additionally, the money will be used to strengthen the organization's capacity and increase its financial stability.

"I am truly pleased by the outpouring of support Dove Recovery House has received so far from the community, and I am especially grateful for the support of the REALTOR® Foundation," said

Maggie Lewis, Dove Recovery House executive director. "We have a long road ahead of us, but we are up to the challenge."

Established in 1984, the REALTOR® Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of REALTORS® (MIBOR). Through its work in transitional housing — which the Foundation defines as the step between emergency shelter and permanent homeownership — the organization partners with existing organizations to address homelessness throughout central Indiana.

Since 2003, the Foundation has invested more than \$600,000 in its mission to support the vital work of organizations that serve people displaced because of domestic violence, natural disaster or economic hardships that have made them temporarily homeless.

To learn more about the REALTOR® Foundation, visit www.realtorfoundation.org.

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This information has been provided by the REALTOR® Foundation and the Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of REALTOR® (MIBOR). Established in 1984, the REALTOR® Foundation is the philanthropic arm of. MIBOR, the professional association representing central Indiana's REALTORS®, serves the needs of more than 6,500 members in Boone, Brown, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion, Montgomery, Morgan and Shelby counties.