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Contact Information

Jahara N. Davis
Coordinator of Public Relations/Volunteers
(314) 531-0120, ext. 2125
Email: jndavis@anniemalone.com

ANNIE MALONE HONORS CHILD ADVOCATES DURING MAY DAY WEEKEND

St. Louis, MO – Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center will honor twenty four child advocates at this year's Soiree Dinner and Silent Auction. The Soiree, scheduled for Friday, May 15 at 7 p.m., will be held at the beautiful Chase Park Plaza Hotel. Bonita Cornute from Fox 2 News and Robin Boyce will co-emcee the event. The black tie affair is a fundraising event which will highlight those in the St. Louis region who advocate for children and work to increase opportunities for them. In addition to the child advocate awards, three other distinguished awards will be presented during the evening and include: The Founder's Award, The Annie M. Turnbo Pope Malone Award, The Making a Difference Award, along with the Board Member of the Year Award.

The 2009 Child Advocate honorees are: Lynnette Adams, Malik Ahmed, Julia Robinson Burke, Jada Coleman, Lisa Collier, Karen Davis, Honorable Judge Jimmie Edwards, Alderwoman Chandra Coughley, Diana Gulotta, Marcia Hayes-Harris, Honorable Judge Sandra Farragut-Hemphill, Tammie Holland, Raquel Humphrey, Rumell Lomack, Councilwoman Karen McKay, Bill Miller, Emily Pitts, Tony Scott, Reginald Slaughter, Halbert Sullivan, Dr. Joule Stevenson, Dr. Rance Thomas, Nina Thompson, and Breona Washington. Those persons receiving the distinguished awards will be unveiled during the Soiree.

As Annie Malone celebrates the May Day weekend with its theme, 'Connecting Families' the Soiree will be decorated in a masquerade theme for festive enjoyment. Tickets to the event are \$75 per person and \$750 per table of ten. A silent auction will precede dinner at 6 p.m.

May Day festivities are supported and sponsored by several community organizations, media companies, and individuals who include: Emerson, Cricket Communications, McDonald's, U.S. Bank, St. Louis Convention and Visitors Commission, Southwest Bank, Kustom Corvettes, Best Buy, Kaden Korporation, The Dream Center, Barnyard Kitcjen, Fox 2 News, KSDK Channel 5, Clear Channel's Majic 104.9 and 100.3 The Beat, Radio One's Foxy 95.5 and Hot 104.1, St. Louis City's STL TV, Channel 20, and Channel 18's Coping Hope among a host of other supporters.

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The agency's goal is to remind the community of Annie Malone's mission and services. "This event allows us an opportunity to recognize those who care for children just as much as we do" said Linda M. Nance, Director of Resource Development for Annie Malone.

Annie Malone Children & Family Service Center, (<http://www.anniemalone.com>), has been an anchor in the Greater Ville community since 1888. It is dedicated to helping abused, neglected, and abandoned children and their families. In tribute to the loyalty of one of its board members, philanthropist Annie M. Turnbo Pope Malone, (prominent entrepreneur and founder of Poro College, hair care and beauty products) the St. Louis Colored Orphans Home was renamed as Annie Malone Children & Family Service Center. To date, May Day activities serve as the largest fundraising events held by the agency each year. To learn more, please visit www.anniemalone.com or call (314) 531-0120.

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