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AMERICA'S SECOND HARVEST RECEIVES \$10,000 GRANT

Leadership Tampa Alumni (LTA) Awards Three Philanthropy in Action Grants

TAMPA, Fla. – February 13, 2008 – America's Second Harvest received a \$10,000 grant from Leadership Tampa Alumni (LTA) at the organization's January meeting. LTA's Philanthropy In Action initiative awarded that grant as well as a \$1,500 grant to the Everyday Blessings foster and adoption agency, and a \$1,000 grant to the Drug Abuse Comprehensive Coordinating Office, Inc. (DACCO).

The grants are awarded as part of Leadership Tampa Alumni's Philanthropy in Action (PIA) program. Launched in 2002, the PIA initiative was established through the vision of philanthropist Bob Blanchard and each year awards grants to worthy nonprofits in the Tampa Bay area.

This year's winners were chosen from a total of 47 applicants. Each year, the PIA application process looks at a project's meaningfulness and impact on the community, the organization's credibility, and whether the project has a beginning and an end. It also requires that the project's objectives and outcomes be measurable and clear. America's Second Harvest's grant will be used to initiate a self-sustaining food purchase program to feed the impoverished in our community.

Challenging Leadership Tampa Alumni to raise its own money, Blanchard's vision was to inspire the creation of a fundraising legacy that would carry on after his initial contribution of seed money was discontinued. LTA's PIA initiative is maturing through a formal partnership with the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, forming a 501© status for PIA. Through fundraising and personal donations by LTA members, as well as a \$5,000 annual donation from the Community Foundation, Leadership Tampa Alumni is building an endowment that will allow the annual grants to extend into perpetuity.

To date, LTA has donated \$60,000 to worthy organizations through its formal grant process.

About Leadership Tampa Alumni

With more than 650 members that have graduated from Leadership Tampa since its founding by the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce in 1971, Leadership Tampa Alumni (www.ltalumni.org) provides ongoing opportunities for its members to remain actively involved in civic, business and professional activities that benefit the greater Tampa community. Members represent nearly every facet of local business and community life, including large corporations, small businesses, professional associations, government and social agencies.