



WESLEY HOUSE COMMUNITY CENTER CELEBRATES ARRIVAL OF TWO MINI-BUSES

– Purchase made possible through generous grant from the UPS Foundation –

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Knoxville, Tennessee (March 12, 2009) – Wesley House Community Center (“Wesley House”) recently purchased two mini-buses with a \$25,000 grant from the UPS Foundation.

Wesley House Executive Director, Richard Gibson, noted, “We were thrilled to receive the generous grant from the UPS Foundation for the transportation upgrade. With the funds, we were able to acquire two nearly-new mini-buses which are being used to safely transport our students and seniors to and from a variety of Wesley House programs and activities. The new vehicles replaced two well-worn, twenty-year old vans.

“Through the support of individuals, churches, organizations, and foundations like the UPS Foundation, we are able to fulfill the needs and change the lives of those we serve.”

Wesley House is the second oldest charity in Knoxville. Founded in 1907 by the Methodist Women, the center operated a childcare center for mothers who worked at Brookside Mills. In the 1940s, Wesley House became a National Mission of the United Methodist Church to minister to families in impoverished areas. Today, Wesley House conducts tutoring sessions, operates a learning center, provides a summer enrichment program, and offers a series performing arts and cultural activities for at-risk youth in grades 1-8. Wesley House also offers an ongoing educational and social program for senior citizens, focusing on both physical and mental well-being. Wesley House primarily serves the Mechanicsville, Lonsdale, and Beaumont neighborhoods.

The UPS Foundation focuses its financial and non-monetary contributions to organizations that support the changing needs of communities worldwide. Based on more than 50 years of philanthropic experience and building on its business expertise, the UPS Foundation employs four global giving strategies: effective volunteerism, leadership, operations, and sustainability. These strategies are designed to create positive social impact and long-term solutions to community challenges.

Photographs are attached.

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