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Covenant House Florida Receives \$220,000 Grant from The Jim Moran Foundation

The Jim Moran Foundation recently awarded \$220,000 to Covenant House Florida to launch a new General Education Degree/Adult Basic Education (GED/ABE) program for the homeless youth and young adults served by the nonprofit organization. The Jim Moran Foundation grant funds the GED/ABE program, Project Empower, for three years.

“We are very grateful to The Jim Moran Foundation for its support of Project Empower,” said James M. Gress, Covenant House Florida executive director. “The fact is that the young people we serve desperately need access to education if they are to avoid homelessness as adults. By putting them on a path to improve their education, this program is the first step in opening up many more opportunities and helping them become self-sufficient adults.”

Project Empower will serve approximately 250 youths and young adults who are current or former Covenant House Florida residents with approximately 40 active students at any time. The grant provides funding for one full-time certified teacher, a part-time testing specialist and four part-time case managers in addition to a new classroom with 10 workstations with computers. The grant also covers the cost of GED Academy software, an accelerated learning program with built-in assessments that creates a customized learning plan for each student and adjusts the plan as the student learns.

Headquartered in Fort Lauderdale, Covenant House Florida provides shelter and services for homeless youth under age 21, including teen moms and their babies. The organization, which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, offers emergency shelter, counseling, case management, therapy, on-site health services, family reunification, substance abuse treatment, pregnancy prevention, teen parenting education, job readiness training, transportation assistance, transitional housing and education. Since its inception, it has served more than 30,000 homeless young people. For more information, contact estone@covenanthousefl.org or 954-568-7914.

Founded by automotive pioneer Jim Moran, the mission of The Jim Moran Foundation is to improve the quality of life for the youth and families of Florida through the support of innovative programs and opportunities that meet the ever-changing needs of

the community. The Foundation has invested nearly \$55 million in education, elder care, family strengthening, and youth transitional living initiatives since its inception in 2000 -- with efforts currently focused in Broward, Palm Beach and Duval counties. Through a long-term grant agreement, The Foundation's significant funders are JM Family Enterprises, Inc., and its subsidiaries, including Southeast Toyota Distributors, LLC. It is located at 100 Jim Moran Blvd., Deerfield Beach, Fla. 33442. To learn more, visit www.jimmoranfoundation.org or call (954) 429-2122.

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