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**Action Ministries Housing Selected to Receive \$300,000
HUD Supportive Housing Program Grant**

Organization to Establish Eight New Transitional Housing Sites for Homeless Families in Augusta

ATLANTA, Ga. (March 29, 2012) – Action Ministries Housing, a leading provider of supportive housing programs in communities throughout Georgia, has recently been selected by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to receive grant monies that will enable it to open eight new transitional housing sites in the Augusta area.

The \$308,908 HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Supportive Housing Program (SHP) grant was awarded as part of a federal program created to enable providers to offer housing and supportive services that allow homeless persons to live as independently as possible. Grants are awarded competitively to local programs to meet the needs of their homeless clients.

The establishment of the eight new homes will make Action Ministries Housing one of the largest providers of transitional housing services in Augusta.

Through transitional housing programs, homeless families with children are provided with a home that is theirs to live in as long as they are enrolled in the program. Participants are required to attend financial management courses and receive job coaching. Action Ministries also assists the families with finding child care and transportation once they obtain employment. Six months before families graduate from the program they prepare to live in their own apartment or home by preparing a real world budget and live within that budget for the remainder of their time in the program. They also learn how to negotiate the ins and outs of securing permanent housing.

“Action Ministries Housing is honored to have been selected by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as the recipient of this competitive grant,” said the Rev. Jannan Thomas, executive director of Action Ministries Housing. “We look forward to partnering with the community and working collaboratively with other providers in the area to provide housing and services to the growing number of homeless families in Augusta.”

“We’re so excited about the expansion of the statewide Action Ministries Housing program into Augusta,” said Rick Herring, executive director of Action Ministries Augusta, which assists the hungry, homeless and working poor in the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA). “It is an example of our local program using its statewide connections to bring much-needed services to the Augusta community.”

“Action Ministries is committed to transforming lives and these new funds will enable us to expand our good work to serve more families in the Augusta region,” said the Rev. John R. Moeller, president of

Action Ministries, a statewide nonprofit providing hunger, housing and education solutions to those in need. “We’re proud to have been recognized by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development for our strong track record of helping people transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency.”

Each transitional housing site requires \$8,000 of community financial support per year. For more information about how churches, groups or organizations can sponsor a home, or how homeowners can donate a home to the program, contact Jannan Thomas (jthomas@actionministries.net or 404-881-1991, ext. 5615) or Danielle Meyer (dmeyer@actionministries.net or 706-699-0801).

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Action Ministries Housing is a program of Action Ministries, a statewide nonprofit that leads communities and volunteers in serving their neighbors in need by providing hunger, housing and education solutions. In Athens, Atlanta, Augusta, Decatur, Gainesville, and Rome, and through programs such as Breakthru House, Our Daily Bread, Action Ministries Housing and the Smart Lunch, Smart Kid child nutrition initiative, Action Ministries is serving more Georgians than ever before. For more information visit www.actionministries.net or www.facebook.com/ActionMinistriesGeorgia.