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NEWS RELEASE

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LOCAL NONPROFIT CHILDREN'S ORGANIZATION PARTNERS WITH CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS TO BUILD ORPHANAGE IN HAITI

TALLAHASSEE, FL (November 23, 2010) The Children's Forum, a local nonprofit children's organization headquartered in Tallahassee, and Project K.I.D. (Kids in Disaster) have teamed up with other partners to build a permanent orphanage in the mountain community of Kenscoff, Haiti located just outside of Port-au-Prince. The orphanage will be large enough to accommodate 120 children on property owned by International Helping Hearts, an organization that is officially registered and recognized by the government of Haiti. The facility will create a safe, clean, indoor space for children who lost their parents during January's earthquake and will be built using weather proof block construction that can withstand the climate conditions in Haiti as well as earthquakes.

Many of number of Haiti's children are still without homes and are literally living in orphanages that are only able to provide tents for shelter. With no permanent roof over their heads, the conditions are deplorable and resources are scarce.

"The greatest concern is that these children are getting sick and will not thrive, especially during the current rainy season that is making the situation even more challenging," said Paige Ellison-Smith, co-founder of Project K.I.D. "Our hope is for the

orphanage to accommodate 120 children due to the desperate situation for housing abandoned and orphaned children in Haiti.”

To build the orphanage and make it a reality for these children, \$60,000 is needed. This amount equals \$500 per child space to provide shelter. The Children’s Forum, Project K.I.D., and other partners are committed to fundraising for the cause. The Children’s Forum has raised \$1,000 towards the orphanage effort and a church in Daphne, Alabama contributed \$18,000. An additional \$2,000 from other agencies brings the current grand total to \$21,000.

“At a time when we reflect upon our blessings during the holidays, the Children’s Forum has a wonderful opportunity to express our gratitude by helping to build this orphanage,” said Phyllis Kalifeh, President and CEO of the Children’s Forum. “Directing our giving to help build the orphanage will be a gift that will last for many years to come and provide shelter for children who may not survive otherwise.”

To learn more about how you or your organization can donate to the Orphanage Fund and to view photos of the actual orphans who will be helped, visit <http://www.project-kid.com/orphanage.php> or contact Phyllis Kalifeh at pkalifeh@thechildrensforum.com.

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About the Children’s Forum

The Children’s Forum is a statewide, not-for-profit organization with an uncompromising vision to make Florida a state where children grow and thrive in quality environments and where families have access to information, resources, and options to assist them in their parenting roles. Through a broad array of programs, research, advocacy, training and education, the Forum is committed to achieving our vision by targeting and supporting those who care for and educate our children daily; the early care and education workforce.