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# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Local Groups Work Together to Bring Awareness to Discrimination

(Nashville, TN – November 2009) Middle Tennessee human rights organizations have banded together to host a celebration of International Human Rights Day on December 10, 2009. Human Rights Day began in 1950 when the General Assembly of the United Nations declared December 10<sup>th</sup> as official day of recognition. The purpose of the day is to celebrate the anniversary date of the assertion of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to promote efforts to improve human rights.

The Nashville cross-generational event will educate participants and viewers on the thirty articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The program will be aired on Metro Channel 3, and will be held in the auditorium of Nashville Public Library located at 615 Church Street beginning at 4:00 p.m. Program highlights include speakers from the area human rights community, original pieces from the spoken word organization, Youth Speaks and an award presentation recognizing the meritorious careers of two human rights pioneers, Inez Crutchfield and Fred Cloud.

Honorees Crutchfield and Cloud have extensive backgrounds as advocates for human rights in the Nashville area and abroad. Crutchfield's accomplishments include playing an active role in the efforts to desegregate Nashville and being the first African-American female to serve as a representative for Tennessee on the Democratic National Committee. She also served as a commissioner of the Tennessee Human Rights Commission. Cloud's accomplishments include securing Tennessee's first fair employment and fair housing Laws, the first Affirmative Action Plan, serving 20 years as Executive Director of Metro Nashville Human Relations Commission, and President of the National Association of Human Rights Workers.

There will also be a special viewing of "The Story of Human Rights," a short film created to bring awareness to international human rights, beginning at 11:00 a.m. and will run concurrently with a showing of "What Are Human Rights," which features 30 public service announcements created by Youth for Human Rights. Both films will run until 4:30.

Directly following the event will be a candle light vigil at Church Street Park representing a reaffirmation of commitment to bringing awareness to the international struggle for human rights.

For more information about this event, please contact Shirley Sims-Saldana of the Metro Human Relations Commission at 615-880-3391 or Bobbie Porter of THRC at 615-253-1608.