

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE AND THE CUMBERLANDS

Information for Release

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BAPTIST HEALING TRUST AWARDS LEGAL AID SOCIETY GRANT FOR MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIP

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 12, 2010 - The Baptist Healing Trust has awarded a \$35,692 grant to The Legal Aid Society to support a collaboration between the Legal Aid Society and the Monroe Carell, Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt that helps low income children, said Erie Chapman, the trust's president & CEO.

The first of its kind in Tennessee, the collaboration between Legal Aid and Children's Hospital – known as The Medical-Legal Partnership for Children (MLPC) – is an innovative approach to improving health outcomes for low-income children. MLPC helps families solve legal problems that are threatening their children's basic needs and health (e.g. safety, housing, financial stability, education, and access to healthcare). The program served 60 children and their families last year.

Recipients of Baptist Healing Trust contributions include non-profit organizations from all over Middle Tennessee working to help create access to quality, compassionate health services for the community's most vulnerable. This year's contributions, which total almost \$1.3 million provided to 42 charities for a variety of health related projects, bring the collective grant making of the Baptist Healing Trust to almost \$50 million since 2002. The Baptist Healing Trust was created when Baptist Hospital in Nashville sold to St. Thomas Health Services, a ministry of Ascension Health in St. Louis, Missouri. The mission of the trust is to be a caring ministry devoted to healing with love in the Christian tradition.

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