

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – July 1, 2009

Hope Refugee Services to Merge with Jericho Road Ministries

The merger will provide significant benefits to both the clients of the agencies as well as the community.

BUFFALO, NY – Hope Refugee Services (HRS), housed at 318 Breckenridge, will merge with Jericho Road Ministries (JRM) located at 184 Barton Street.

The two agencies are already working closely together due to their close proximity and significant overlap in clients, and offer complementary services to their mutual clients. In lieu of HRS seeking distinct 501 (c) 3 nonprofit status, it was determined by both agencies Board of Directors to merge. The merger will save both agencies a significant amount in financial resources while expanding services and client base.

“Our current programs will fit together easily and be able to easily meet our clients at various points of need and move them through our programs from initial understanding and dependence toward empowerment over poverty and self-sufficiency” said Judith M. Anderson, executive director of JRM and Bonnie MacBeth, executive director of HRS, “The merging of the programs and services will mean that each client builds a more solid foundation for success.”

Jericho Road Ministries will also be receiving United Way program funding, coincidentally also effective July 1. Under the Education platform, they will be receiving \$70,000 for the West Side Read and Play Program. Under the Income platform, they will be receiving \$45,000 for the Financially Fit program. This is the first time they have received United Way program funding.

The Fund for Alliances, supported by United Way of Buffalo & Erie County donations and distributed through its Not For Profit Resource Center, made the realignment of the program and agencies possible. The financial support provided, \$20,300, was used for legal expenses and other necessary expenditures to complete the desired merger and move.

For more information on Jericho Road Ministries please visit www.jrm-buffalo.org or call 348-3000.

For more information on Hope Refugee Services please visit www.hoperefugee.org or call 881-0539.

