

For Immediate Release

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**THE HOUSE, INCORPORATED, STUDENT LEADERSHIP CENTER
RECEIVES QUALITY OF LIFE GRANT FROM CHRISTOPHER & DANA
REEVE FOUNDATION**

WOODBIDGE, VIRGINIA – (March 27, 2009) – Each year the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation awards grants to non-profit organizations that provide services to individuals living with paralysis. This year the Foundation is proud to announce The House, Inc. as one of the 145 recipients, receiving \$10,000 in aid.

THE HOUSE will use the grant to help those living with paralysis or other incapacitating physical disabilities become active members in everyday life. Each year The House stages ‘A Cinderella Ball’ gala prom night for middle and high school students with physical, developmental and life-threatening illnesses. On May 30 at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel in Washington DC students in evening wear will enjoy the gift of a regal banquet, first-class entertainment by 2007 American Idol winner, Jordin Sparks and Kyle Maynard, and dance their hearts out according to their abilities to wrap up a dream come true.

The Reeve award was made on the enthusiastic recommendation of the Reeve Foundation Board’s Quality of Life Committee. “The competition for funds was extremely fierce,” said Joseph Canose, Vice President, Quality of Life. “Two of our student guests at the Ball will receive a scholarship to attend our Summer Camp for eleven weeks,” said Helen McCormick, founder and president of The House. She added, “It is our privilege to include students with disabilities in our programs. It truly turns their limitations into opportunities for achievement. Thanks to the Reeve Foundation.”

“Conceived by the late Dana Reeve, the Quality of Life grants have helped non-profits throughout the world improve the lives of people living with paralysis,” said Peter T. Wilderotter, president and CEO of the Reeve Foundation. “The program also provides assistance for family members and caregivers, offering services such as counseling, support groups and educational conferences.”

The Quality of Life grants are awarded in 3 categories; Actively Achieving, Bridging Barriers and Caring and Coping. Each category is designed to promote active and fulfilling lives for those living with spinal cord injuries and other paralysis causing conditions. Individuals are encouraged to participate in sports, train for a job, operate specially-adapted computer technology, modify homes for wheelchair accessibility, access public transportation, participate in the arts, proactively maintain their health, and much more.

Since inception of the Quality of Life grants program in 1999, the Foundation has awarded more than 1,500 grants, totaling nearly \$12 million. Some grants are funded through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Recipients of these include non-profits that address the needs of people living with paralysis caused by spinal cord and other injuries, diseases and birth conditions, including (but not limited to) stroke, spina bifida, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

“Ten years have passed since Dana Reeve created the Quality of Life program,” said Peter Wilderotter, “It is our hope that, in the years to come, we can continue to support programs that enable children and adults living with and affected by paralysis and their families the full range of activities that many of us take for granted.”

About the Reeve Foundation

The Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation is dedicated to curing spinal cord injury by funding innovative research, and improving the quality of life for people living with paralysis through grants, information and advocacy. For more information, and to review the entire list of Quality of Life grant recipients, please visit our website at www.ChristopherReeve.org or call 800-225-0292.

The House, Inc.

The House, Incorporated, A Student Leadership Center located at 14000 Crown Court, Suite 105, Woodbridge, Virginia, conducts before and after-school, summer camp day programs , and weekend evening activities and founder of ‘A Cinderella Ball’ for underserved middle and high school students in the greater Washington DC area. For more information, please visit www.thehouse-inc.com. Since opening in the fall of 2005, The House has had over 60,000 student visits.

SUCCESS Magazine featured President, Helen McCormick and The House in the November 2008, while The Washington Post, Washington Times and Fox have also featured the work of The House.

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