



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Open Hands Announces “Twenty/Ten” Fundraising Campaign

Santa Fe, NM: Open Hands, a local nonprofit established in 1977, announces a brand-new campaign through which anyone in the community can help sustain the vital services this organization provides to disabled and elderly members of our community. Through the “Twenty/Ten” donation campaign, which will run through December 31 of this year, Open Hands asks every person who is able to please make a \$20 or \$10 to the organization. This could be a one-time donation, or a monthly, bi-monthly or bi-annual contribution. All donations are tax-deductible.

“We aim to serve people in need, regardless of their financial status,” said Michelle Dube, executive director for Open Hands. “Our funding has been cut so much that our programs are in jeopardy without some additional sources of funding. It is Open Hands’ goal to raise \$500,000.00 with the help of those in our community who have the means to contribute even \$20 or \$10. Added together, even the most humble efforts can make a big difference.”

All services provided by Open Hands are available through the government-sponsored Disability and Elderly Waiver program, on a private pay basis for those who can afford it, and with rates that can be modified in consideration of each client’s financial ability to pay.

Open Hands’ **Home Safety Program** aims to help people with disabilities live independently with as much comfort and safety as possible, for as long as possible, regardless of financial status. Typical work provided includes building wheelchair ramps or widening stairs to accommodate a walker, allowing mobility to people who would otherwise be homebound, and installation of handrails and grab bars to make it safer for people to perform daily tasks and remain living independently in their homes.

The **Adult Day Services** program provides a safe and nurturing environment where family members can bring their elders for daytime care, whether full-time or for only a few hours a week. The Adult Day Service program offers art therapy, socialization, physical therapy, daily nutrition, and oversight by a Registered Nurse. In addition, Open Hands’ **Medical Equipment Loan Bank** lends temporarily needed items such as wheelchairs, walkers, shower and tub chairs free to anyone regardless of age or income and is totally funded by private donations.

“We want to improve the community’s awareness of the services and programs we offer,” said Dube, “and our other major goal right now is to secure additional funding to ensure that we are able to meet the continuous and growing demand for what we do.”

The organization’s web site (www.openhands.org) and a billboard outside of Open Hands’ main building will track the campaign’s progress for visitors, staff, clients and their families to see.

To participate in the Twenty-Ten campaign, please mail your contribution to Open Hands, 2976 Rodeo Park Drive East, Santa Fe, NM 87505, or click the “Donate Now” button on the organization’s web site, www.openhands.org. For more information about Open Hands, call (505) 428-2320.