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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Local Nonprofit Hosts Golf Classic to Help Working-Poor Families Maintain Self-Sufficiency**

DALLAS, Texas – Over 90 golfers joined Interfaith Housing Coalition for a fabulous day of golf and to help working-poor families in Dallas break the cycle of poverty. Interfaith’s 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic, held on Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, raised approximately \$70,000 for the agency’s Graduate Empowerment Program—a new initiative that empowers former residents in the Hope & Home Residential Housing program to remain self-sufficient long-term via one-on-one mentoring and case management services for an entire year after program completion.

Participants not only enjoyed the competitive tournament at Royal Oaks Country Club—one of Dallas’ best golf courses—but they also had a chance to win a new car from Sewell Cadillac, an iPad2, and one of the latest golf GPS systems on the course. The Mavericks Dancers came out to cheer on the golfers and take pictures as well. Several lucky people ended their day with a fabulous raffle prize and top bidders in the silent auction won exclusive experiences, fabulous spa packages, and sports memorabilia from top athletes such as Roger Staubach, Dirk Nowitzki and Robert Griffin III.

“We are truly blessed to have the support of all of our sponsors, in-kind donors, guests and volunteers. The day was a huge success and we are very fortunate that so many local companies partnered with us to ensure the long-term success of our graduates” said Kimberly Williams, Chief Executive Officer. “Because of their generosity, our graduates will receive the additional support they need not just to survive but thrive!”

Sponsors of the Interfaith’s Golf Classic include Gold Sponsors, The Hegi Family and Prophet Equity; Contest Sponsors, Scott and Kathi Shuford/Dallas Auction Galleries and Interstate Batteries; Hole Sponsors, Fish & Richardson, Vollero Beach Capital Partners, Austin Industries, CBRE, Haynes and Boone, Orix, Robertson Grieger & Thoele, Inovar Packaging, Texas Capital Bank, Lawyer’s Title Company/Lathram Pou & Associates, US Trust/Bank of America Private Wealth Management (Local Team of Tyler Beeson, Robert Ernst and Scott Wagoner), The Rhodes Group, Blue Star Trading Hico Texas, Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Crawford, and Upstream Capital.

**About Interfaith Housing Coalition**

Interfaith Housing Coalition is a faith-based agency whose mission is “to be the hands of Christ helping families transition to self-sufficiency and new hope”. For over 25 years, Interfaith has been committed to providing housing and accountability-driven support services for homeless families of any faith or no faith at all. In fact, Interfaith is one of the few Dallas-based nonprofits that exclusively serves working poor families experiencing a housing crisis.

Approximately 100 families—headed primarily by single mothers—receive program services each year that include transitional housing through 49 apartment units owned by the agency debt-free; extensive financial literacy training; job search assistance and career development; and nurturing

after-school and summer programs for children and teens. The holistic programming gives families a “hand up” instead of a “hand out” because of Interfaith’s formula for success—**Stability + Self-Worth + Skills = Self-Sufficiency**. Current outcomes prove this model works with graduate families increasing their monthly income by 412%, saving an average of \$5,000, and reducing debt by an average of \$3,000. Interfaith has also received a 4-Star rating from Charity Navigator—the highest rating available for sound fiscal responsibility—for the last six years. For more information about how you can donate, volunteer or help spread the word, visit [www.ihcdallas.org](http://www.ihcdallas.org).

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