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Band Together NC Announces StepUP Ministry as Its 2010 Charity Recipient

Raleigh, N.C. (Oct. 6, 2009) — [Band Together NC](#), a nonprofit organization that uses musical events to raise funds and awareness for select Triangle charities, has announced [StepUP Ministry](#) as its 2010 charity recipient. The decision was made at a final board meeting held Oct 5.

The application process started in early August and drew 31 applicants. Since the application deadline, Band Together's board has been narrowing down the applicant pool from eight semi-finalists to three finalists and finally to a 2010 charity recipient.

“The process was challenging and took twice as long because of the caliber of applicants who applied this year,” said Danny Rosin, president and co-founder of Band Together NC. “Our decision to choose StepUP was based on their passion to address a very timely unemployment problem affecting many in the Triangle. We also took into account our ability to successfully partner with them to make a meaningful impact in the community.”

StepUP Ministry is an interfaith nonprofit organization that teaches low-income and homeless people to become self-sufficient (stable job, stable home, stable family). Founded in 1988, StepUP annually helps empower, not enable, nearly 600 individuals in Wake County. StepUP accomplishes this through two life-giving programs: job training/placement and life skills training.

“We are honored and thankful to partner with Band Together in 2010,” said Executive Director Steve Swayne. “The funds raised will allow us to directly impact an additional 600 individuals over the next two years through the hiring of employment counselors and life-skills case managers.”

Since Band Together's inception nine years ago, the all-volunteer organization has helped raise more than \$700,000 for area charities. Last year, Band Together raised more than \$140,000 for the Lucy Daniels Center. One hundred percent of net proceeds were donated to the center.

"Our goal this year will be to draw an audience of 3,000-plus with phenomenal live music, raise the bar, and donate a minimum of \$150,000 to StepUP, and have a great time making it happen," said Rosin.

Band Together has already started recruiting bands for the event, to be held in late April or early May. Early sponsors to commit include Cargill, RPG Solutions, Hosted Solutions, S&A Cherokee, Lincoln Theatre, Synergy, Duke Realty Corporation, DowntownRaleigh.com, Manning Fulton, CAPTRUST, and Brand Fuel.

Past charities have included SAFEchild, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Triangle, Wake County Boys and Girls Clubs, The Food Bank of Eastern North Carolina for local and Gulf Coast Katrina Relief, Stop Hunger Now for Tsunami Relief, the Music Maker Relief Foundation, the N.C. Chapter of Operation Smile, Special Olympics North Carolina, and the 9/11 Survivors Fund.

For more information about Band Together NC, please www.bandtogethernc.org. For more information about StepUP Ministry, please visit www.step-up.us.

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About Band Together NC

Band Together NC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization composed of business and community leaders and volunteers from across the Triangle. Since its inception in 2001, the organization has helped raise more than \$700,000 for philanthropic organizations through one mission: using music to raise funds and awareness for local charities. Band Together is run entirely by volunteer efforts. For more information, please visit www.bandtogethernc.org.

About StepUP Ministry

StepUP Ministry is an interfaith nonprofit organization that teaches low-income and homeless people to become self-sufficient (stable job, stable home, stable family). Founded in 1988, StepUP annually helps empower, not enable, nearly 600 individuals in Wake County. StepUP accomplishes this through life-skills preparation with volunteer partners and job training/placement. More than 800 Wake County adults, many of them in crisis or in need, have been placed in jobs over the last five years because of StepUP Ministry. For more information, visit www.step-up.us or call (919) 781-0156.