



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 4, 2008

CONTACT: Edwin M. Schaffler, President

972.661.9792

ANONYMOUS FAMILY'S GRANT RENEWS 4TH ANNUAL WORK OF HEART AWARD PROGRAM FOR 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR

Catholic Foundation to match family's grant; announces call for nominations

DALLAS – The Catholic Foundation kicks off the new school year, announcing that an anonymous Dallas family has renewed its commitment to fund the Work of Heart Awards for Dallas-area teachers, faculty and staff, for the fourth year in a row. The Catholic Foundation will match the family's contribution to the program.

Nominations are now being accepted for exceptional teachers and staff alike. Students, teachers, parents, administrators and community members are invited to nominate anyone serving as a full or part-time employee in a Catholic school located in the Diocese of Dallas.

“Over the past three years, we have seen the positive impact that the Work of Heart Award program has had on our local Catholic teachers and staff, recognizing their commitment to education and reinforcing the value of their work in the lives our children and community,” said Edwin M. Schaffler, president of The Catholic Foundation. “We are overwhelmed by the generosity of the anonymous family who make this program possible and look forward to another great year.”

The Work of Heart Award program was established in 2005 to honor Catholic educators and staff in the Diocese of Dallas and was solely funded by an anonymous Dallas family through The Catholic Foundation. Since its inception, the Catholic Foundation has presented 470 grants totaling \$434,000 to individuals who serve children in 37 area schools.

In addition, the family invites likeminded individuals to join them in recognizing the hard work and dedication of the educators and staff in their local Catholic schools. Individual contributions can be made to the Work of Heart Award Fund at the Catholic Foundation.

To nominate a candidate for the “Work of Heart” Award, please visit the Foundation’s Web site at **www.catholicfoundation.com** for instructions on the nomination process. Anyone serving as a full- or part-time employee in a Catholic school located in the Diocese of Dallas may be nominated. In addition to the \$500 awards, The Catholic Foundation will present Grand Awards of \$5,000 throughout the school year.

Chartered in 1955, The Catholic Foundation was founded by a group of dedicated Catholic laymen with a vision that extended far beyond the charitable needs of the moment. For over 50 years, this independent, nonprofit corporation has dedicated its resources to compassionate charitable giving through grants provided by benefactors through its many planned giving programs. The Foundation has been able to provide approximately \$21 million through hundreds of grants to various religious, educational and charitable organizations within the Diocese of Dallas during its 50 plus years of existence. In addition, donor-advised funds maintained at the Foundation have accounted for many more grants amounting to millions of dollars over the years. **For additional information about The Catholic Foundation, call 972.661.9792.**

###