

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DONALD W. REYNOLDS FOUNDATION AWARDS CAPITAL GRANT

Tulsa, OK -- Happy Hands Education Center was awarded a \$6,635,040 capital grant from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation to build a 20,628 square foot education center to address the needs of hearing impaired children, ages six weeks to six years, and their families.

Since Happy Hands' inception in 1993, the organization has worked tirelessly to meet the educational and developmental needs of children and families affected by hearing impairment. During the past 11 years, Happy Hands has been housed in a 1,600 square foot residential building and has been limited to serving 30 children. The new facility will allow Happy Hands to provide services for up to 70 children and their families.

Board President, Amanda Folsom Wander, said that she is proud of Happy Hands. "We are thrilled to have been selected by the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation to receive a capital grant. The Foundation's grant will enable Happy Hands to build a modern facility that will increase our capacity to assist children and families of children who suffer from hearing loss, deafness, and other communication disorders. We are proud of the impact we currently have and know that once in our new facility we will be building hope in the lives of so many more!"

The Donald W. Reynolds Education Center at Happy Hands, which will be located at 8800 South Garnett Road, will consist of classrooms, space for parent education and counseling, therapy rooms and administrative offices. Advanced technologies will be available throughout the facility and will aid in children's listening opportunities. Sound field systems and assistive listening devices will provide these children with tools to better communicate.

"This grant award will have a definite impact on the educational services that will be made available in this new facility," stated Dr. Dean VanTrease, Honorary Chair for the "Building Hope" Campaign. "The contribution by the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation to build the new Donald W. Reynolds Education Center at Happy Hands is most appreciated. This will allow Happy Hands to touch the lives of many more children who are deaf or hard of hearing and provide these children and their families the educational services they need."

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Although Happy Hands has been awarded a capital grant, the work for its staff is not over. Happy Hands has raised \$2.7 million to date and must raise an additional \$2 million to complete its campaign.

Established in 1993, Happy Hands is a Christian education center for families with children, ages six weeks to six years, who are deaf and hard of hearing and children with other communicative disorders. Happy Hands purpose is to empower these special needs children with confidence, education, life skills and the abilities necessary to achieve all of the dreams they may have. Happy Hands strives to provide opportunities to help these children and their families flourish in every area of their lives. For more information, visit www.happyhands.org. To support Happy Hands, contact Development Director Denise Frihart at 918-660-0855 or denise@happyhands.org.

The Donald W. Reynolds Foundation is a national philanthropic organization founded in 1954 by the late media entrepreneur for whom it is named. Headquartered in Las Vegas, Nevada, it is one of the largest private foundations in the United States.

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