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**DALLAS RESIDENTS REWARDED WITH HOME MAKEOVERS THROUGH
COMMUNITY INITIATIVE**

DALLAS, TX (September 29, 2009) – Select residents of the Sunny Acres community in the southern sector of Dallas will receive up to \$1,000 in repairs for their homes today from Noon – 4 p.m., through participation in the Pride in Your Neighborhood Program (PYIN), a partnership between the City of Dallas, Keep Dallas Beautiful, and the Volunteer Center of North Texas. Volunteers from Coca-Cola will assist in home repairs.

“We are so excited about rewarding residents for their faithful participation in this program,” said Joy McBeth, manager of community projects at the Volunteer Center. *“Dedicated residents of Sunny Acres will finally receive personal benefits for their commitment to improving their community over the past year.”*

The goal of PYIN is to restore pride in local neighborhoods by involving residents in the upkeep and improvement of their communities. Sunny Acres is one of seven communities selected by the Dallas City Council to participate in this initiative. Other communities include: Arcadia Park, Arlington Park, Beverly Hills, Cedar Oaks, Fordham Road and Singing Hills.

To qualify for free home repairs, residents had to attend homeowner association meetings and participate in neighborhood clean-ups and community beautification projects. Property improvements include: **exterior painting, landscaping, fence repair/painting, safety/security lighting and mailbox repair.**

“This collaboration between the City of Dallas, Volunteer Center of North Texas and Keep Dallas Beautiful is an excellent example of community organizations coming together to make an impact in the lives of citizens,” said Julie Thomas, CEO of the Volunteer Center of North Texas. *“We hope residents in the Sunny Acres community will remember this day for years to come.”*

The mission of the Homeowner Improvement Incentive Program is to provide financial incentives to stimulate exterior preservation of the housing stock in the neighborhoods participating in PIYN. Substandard exterior housing conditions are improved through the program, principally for the benefit of low income, disabled and elderly individuals and families.

Volunteers will check-in at Noon, receive instructions for the day and proceed until 4 p.m. with home improvements throughout the neighborhood. Councilwoman Carolyn Davis has been invited to attend.

About the Volunteer Center of North Texas

The Volunteer Center of North Texas (VCNT), founded in 1971, is one of the largest and most active volunteer centers in the country. A primary purpose of VCNT is to recruit volunteers, including individuals, corporations and civic and faith-based groups, to serve nonprofits and their clients throughout the North Texas area. For more information, visit www.vcnt.org.