



HeartShare Human Services of New York  
12 MetroTech Center, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

**For Immediate Release**  
March 28, 2008

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**HeartShare Evaluation Center Damaged in Bank Robbery**

(Brooklyn, NY)— HeartShare Human Services of New York's Angels on the Bay Preschool Evaluation Center sustained heavy damage when burglars breaking into an adjoining Sovereign Bank vault used the Center's premises as their point of entry. In addition to breaking walls and furnishings, the burglars plugged a bathroom sink to create flooding and used a fire extinguisher to obliterate evidence. The impact of the flooding was particularly damaging, ruining floors, furniture, computers and even some program records. Historical photos of children who have received services from HeartShare, in addition to many donated raffle items for an upcoming fundraising dinner, were destroyed.

"The site is a disaster," said Carol Verdi, Vice President of Education Services, who oversees the operations at the center. "We feel violated about what happened here. There are no words to express the sadness I felt seeing historical photos of the children we have helped over the years laying on the floor, destroyed by water and being walked on. We also have to start over in collecting raffle and auction items donated by our parents and staff for our May fundraising dinner. "

HeartShare is cooperating fully with the FBI and New York Police Department investigations. Anyone interested in making donations may send them to: HeartShare's First Step Early Childhood Program, 81-12 151st Avenue, Howard Beach, NY 11414 or call (718) 848-0300.

Celebrating its 94th year, HeartShare is a nonprofit organization that assists more than 17,000 New Yorkers. Its wide spectrum of services provides counseling, after-school programs and assistance with foster care and adoption to children and families, supports people affected by HIV/AIDS, and administers energy assistance programs. It also helps individuals with developmental disabilities, including Autism and the Spectrum Disorders, through education services, adult day programs, residential services, case management, recreation programs, family support services and health services.

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