



HeartShare Human Services of New York
12 MetroTech Center, 29th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201
www.heartshare.org

For Immediate Release
April 6, 2011

Media Contact: Tricia Fleming
(718) 422-3266

Gala Raises \$665, 000 for HeartShare!

(Brooklyn, NY)— It may still be early in the spring season, but it was getting hot at the silent auction tables at HeartShare’s Annual Spring Gala and Auction. Tickets to see *Phantom of the Opera*, gift certificates to restaurants, Coach sunglasses, three Juicy Couture bags, Kate Spade accessories, a Bergdorf Goodman Cosmetics basket, sports and celebrity autographed photos, and more contributed to the success of the evening which raised \$665,000.

At its Gala, HeartShare Human Services of New York honored four individuals committed to helping those in need and improving the community around them: Mark C. Healy, President and CEO of American Stock Transfer & Trust Co. LLC; Vincent Theurer, Sr., President of Approved Oil Company of Brooklyn; Lorraine M. Tozzo, President of The Genie Foundation; and Robert S. Woods, Emmy-Award winning actor of *One Life to Live*.

“We are grateful to all the individuals and corporations that supported our event given the tough economy including Bank of America, Everest Reinsurance Company, Prudential Financial, HSBC Bank USA, Loeb & Troper LLP, Nativo LLC, American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, Alterra, Wingate Kearney & Cullen LLP, Joyce Muller, Paul and Julia Torre, Sal and Linda Vittoria, Joseph and Jeanette Benfante, the Buckley and Strehle families, Linda Dano, Robert Charles Golden and Maureen Moore, John and Helen Sharkey, and Joe and Anne Taranto,” said HeartShare President and CEO William R. Guarinello. “With budget cuts looming in Albany and City Hall, these funds are even more vital to the success of our programs for children, adults and their families.”

“Our honorees are wonderful, caring people and they were surrounded by equally caring family and friends,” Mr. Guarinello continued. “For example, Lorraine Tozzo’s niece received a standing ovation and most of the cast, as well as the Executive Producer, of *One Life to Live* attended to support Robert Woods. Not only were they bidding on, they were winning, items in the auction to support HeartShare’s programs.”

-more-

Celebrating its 97th year, HeartShare is a nonprofit organization that assists more than 25,000 New Yorkers. Its wide array of services assist individuals with autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disabilities through numerous programs including education services, adult day programs, residential services, case management, recreation programs, family support services, and health services. It also provides counseling, after-school programs and assistance with foster care and adoption to children and families, supports people affected by HIV/AIDS, and administers low-income energy assistance programs. HeartShare is proud that nearly 90% of all revenue goes directly to its programs and services. HeartShare is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children and is a BBB Accredited Charity. For more information, visit www.heartshare.org or follow on Facebook or Twitter.

###