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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Founders Honored at 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala for the Crisis Ministry of Princeton and Trenton**

(TRENTON)—Their arrival illuminated by the soft glow of 252 luminaria representing 252 tons of food distributed this year, supporters gathered Friday night, November 12, to honor the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Crisis Ministry and to support its future in hunger and homelessness prevention and workforce development. The celebration, with the theme “Honoring Our Founders, Looking to the Future”, took place at Chauncey Conference Center on the grounds of ETS. Live music was provided pro bono by a quartet from the Princeton High School Jazz Combo.

Recognition and legacy awards were given to Barbara Barnett, the Revs. Wallace Alston, Carol Kerbel, and Sally Osmer, and the Corella and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation, represented by the Rev. Wayne Meisel. The Rev. Jarrett Kerbel, Executive Director of the Crisis Ministry, and Beth Fitzgerald and Reaney Kunkler, event co-chairs, presented the awards. Unable to attend were honorees Betty Wold Johnson and the Revs. Carol Stoy, Blan Aldridge, and John Crocker.

Also addressing the guests, who included Rep. Rush Holt, were William Creager and Thalia Mingo, co-chairs of the Crisis Ministry steering committee, and staff member Tearyan Brown, a graduate of the Crisis Ministry’s Harvesting Hope workforce development program. During his remarks about how the Crisis Ministry’s work program instilled in him new job skills and a refreshed outlook on life, Brown challenged the evening’s attendees to help turn this year’s 252 tons of donated food into 500 tons for the neighbors in need who will come to the Crisis Ministry for help in 2011.

The Crisis Ministry was founded as a joint initiative of clergy and lay leaders from Nassau Presbyterian Church and Trinity Episcopal Church in Princeton and today counts among its

active partners more than 60 congregations of different faiths, businesses, private foundations, schools and colleges, hundreds of volunteers and individual donors, and the public sector. A non-profit, 501(c)3 program, the Crisis Ministry partners with the community to achieve stability for neighbors in need. It welcomes some 1,400 individuals and families each month who seek food and/or emergency assistance for rent and security deposits, and utilities. The Crisis Ministry provides workforce training and, with Capital Health System, bi-monthly health screenings hosted by First Presbyterian Church of Trenton. Visit [www.thecrisisministry.org](http://www.thecrisisministry.org) or call 609-396-9355.

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