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TARGET HUNGER TO HONOR HESS CORPORATION WITH THE HARVESTING HOPE HUMANITARIAN AWARD AT ITS UPCOMING ANNUAL GALA

HOUSTON – February 17, 2010– Target Hunger, a nonprofit agency working to alleviate hunger and its root causes in the heart of Houston’s inner city, will honor Hess Corporation with the Target Hunger Harvesting Hope Humanitarian Award for their work in the community to address social issues.

The Tenth Annual Target Hunger Gala will be held Thursday, February 25, 2010, at the River Oaks Country Club at 7:00 p.m. with a pre-reception and Silent Auction beginning at 6:00 p.m. The Event Hosts are **Mr. & Mrs. John Daugherty, Jr.** of John Daugherty Realtors. Event Chairman is William Miller, President of Mainframe Service Management for BMC Software, Inc. Entertainment will be provided by Houston’s own concert high energy concert-style band – Fried Ice Cream. Mia Gradney, weekday anchor with KIAH-TV Channel 39 News, will serve as Mistress of Ceremonies.

ConocoPhillips, Hess Corporation, ExxonMobil, and Shell Oil Company have signed on to sponsor the event at the Platinum level for \$25,000.

Target Hunger, a United Way agency, was established in 1989 as a grassroots, community-based program to combat the growing hunger problem in Houston’s inner-city neighborhoods. Each month, Target Hunger distributes food to more than 9,800 needy Houstonians through its 12 neighborhood food pantries, 16 community gardens, and 10 senior day sites. In 2009, Target Hunger distributed more than 3.6 million pounds of food. In conjunction with hunger relief, Target Hunger empowers families to become self-sufficient by offering courses and training in nutrition, ESL & GED classes, after-school and summer youth enrichment programs, and job skills education.

Event proceeds will help fund the programs and services that will allow Target Hunger to accomplish its goals of **“FIGHTING HUNGER, SHAPING LIVES, and STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNITY.”**

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