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## **ELFENWORKS FOUNDATION UNVEILS 'IN HARMONY WITH HOPE' AND 'ELFENWORKS' AWARDS**

### **Debut Awards to Honor Those Working to Shine Light on Domestic Poverty; Honorees to include Rosalynn Carter, Dr. Paul Farmer**

NEW YORK (July 10, 2007) – With a national mission of helping to bring domestic poverty to the top of the American public's agenda, The Elfenworks Foundation has announced the debut of their annual 'In Harmony With Hope' Awards to honor individuals/organizations – each one signifying a part of the 'helping hand' representative of the Foundation's efforts at pinpointing the key areas related to this cause: education, social justice, healthcare, sustenance, and nonviolence. The Elfenworks Foundation will also be taking nominations for 'Elfen Works' Awards, as a way of celebrating less-known individuals/organizations who have been innovative in their local communities through their commitment to helping alleviate the effects of domestic poverty, yet have gone without recognition – until now.

"Our goal is to raise up those who are really trying to make a difference," says Lauren Speeth, CEO of The Elfenworks Foundation. "There are myriad individuals and groups working towards positive change in our country, and we want to let them know that their hard work and bold vision have not gone unseen and that their stories won't be left unsung. We are recognizing and celebrating those who are *'in harmony with hope'* and in tune with our Foundation's efforts."

This fall, in timing with the launch of a dynamic, go-to website for poverty and inequality data, [inequality.com](http://inequality.com) (from Stanford University's Center for the Study of Poverty and Inequality, part of a newly-formed Stanford initiative currently developing higher education programs together with critical online resources for addressing poverty and inequality) The Elfenworks Foundation will present the first recipients with their 'In Harmony With Hope' Awards. The following individuals will be honored at the opening event for the website at the Stanford Memorial Church on September 6, 2007, for their creative contributions to mitigating domestic poverty:

- EDUCATION – Paul Minorini (President & CEO) and Boys Hope Girls Hope, [boyshopegirlshope.org](http://boyshopegirlshope.org) – for helping children who have talent and potential but are trapped in communities of poverty, violence and dysfunction.

- NONVIOLENCE – Joyce Dattner (founder/president) and the Bay Area Center for Independent Culture, *bacic.org* – producers of the Bay Area All Stars Network – for promotion of “life performance” through an after-school performance-based enrichment program for inner-city youth that has been effective in promoting nonviolence and keeping kids off the streets.

Also to be honored separately:

- SOCIAL JUSTICE – Rosalynn Carter and The Carter Center *cartercenter.org* – for her advocacy for mental health, early childhood immunization, human rights, and conflict resolution through her work at The Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia. She has said that ‘poverty is the pathway to depression’ and has stood by her words through a program she leads at The Carter Center to diminish the stigma against mental illness and to promote greater access to mental health care, a root cause of domestic poverty.
- HEALTH – Dr. Paul Farmer (founder/director) and Partners In Health, *pih.org* – bringing their world-class medicine, termed *preferential care*, to the poorest of the poor around the world, they now find their help is needed in the streets of Boston, where they serve the sickest and the most marginalized among us.

To learn more about The Elfenworks Foundation, their partners, and the recipients of the *In Harmony With Hope* awards, and to learn how to nominate candidates for an *Elfen Works* award, visit. [www.elfenworksfoundation.org](http://www.elfenworksfoundation.org)

About The Elfenworks Foundation: The Elfenworks Foundation was created in an effort to support non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in innovative and unconventional ways. We strive to be *-In Harmony With Hope-* by shining light on causes that benefit humanity. In affiliation with U.S. centers of academic excellence, our multi-faceted, creative and hardworking team of social entrepreneurs and advisors draws on expertise in *communications, technology, film, music, legalities, and business administration* to empower the nonprofits we serve; we remove obstacles, help strengthen program and business-model capacities, build infrastructures, forge alliances, and raise awareness about these organizations and our shared agenda. In this way we work in harmony towards our common goal of positive, measurable and sustainable change. Our current goal is to ameliorate domestic poverty and provide new hope for the disenfranchised here at home. For more information, visit [www.elfenworksfoundation.org](http://www.elfenworksfoundation.org).

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