



Making a Difference for Youth, Families and Communities

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Funding Renewed for Vow to Succeed Program

Innovative program helps youth and adults focus on healthy relationship building

MILWAUKEE – October 4, 2011. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded a \$1.7 million grant renewable for up to three years to continue and expand the successful Vow to Succeed Program through the Center for Self-Sufficiency. This program was first developed in 2006 through a 5-year, \$5.5 million federal grant in support of the Healthy Marriage Initiative, which was established to create recognition and awareness of the importance of positive relationships through outreach and community educational programming.

“We are very pleased to receive the funding for our continued efforts in this area,” says Angela Turner, president and CEO of the Center for Self Sufficiency. “The work we do, in collaboration with our partner agencies in the greater Milwaukee area, provides essential support for youth and adults in incorporating healthy relationships and marriages into their lives and fostering economic stability.”

The Center for Self-Sufficiency works with faith- and community-based organizations as well as schools to provide classes to youth, singles and married couples in the areas of healthy relationships, marriage preparation, marriage enhancement and teen pregnancy prevention.

“It is exciting to know that we will be able to continue participating in the existing programming now in place that assists people in recognizing the need for healthy relationships,” says Lupe Martinez, president and CEO of UMOS. “Vow to Succeed provides them with the tools they need to create them in their own lives. We are pleased to continue our work with this program.”

The Center for Self-Sufficiency will work with more than a dozen partners, and appreciates their support and the support of Eloise Anderson in particular. As Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, she was instrumental in developing a partnership between the Department of Children and Families and CFSS for this project to improve services to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families-eligible families and to create an effective domestic violence and child maltreatment service network.

With this funding, the Center’s Vow to Succeed will continue offering a variety of programming in the community, from full-day workshops to retreats and evening classes. All programming is free and open to the public. For more information on the Center for Self-Sufficiency and its Vow to Succeed program, including educational topics, upcoming events, community partner locations and how to get involved, visit www.centerinc.org or call (414) 332-0050.

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