

Pathways Foundation

For immediate release

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Pathways Foundation Awards Congregations Grants For Taking Steps to Include Worshipers of All Abilities

CHICAGO (Oct. 9, 2011) — Pathways Foundation is pleased to announce the congregations who will receive **2011 Open Hearts Awards cash grants** for specific, planned projects that welcome and include worshippers of all abilities:

2011 Open Hearts Award Winning Congregations

Church of St. Francis Xavier, New York, New York
Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Cincinnati, Ohio
Old St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Chicago, Illinois
Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica & National Shrine, Chicago, Illinois
Ss. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, Deer Park, New York
St. Albert The Great Catholic Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota
St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, Lake Zurich, Illinois
St. Giles Catholic Church, Oak Park, Illinois
St. John The Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, Des Plaines, Illinois
St. Mary Catholic Church, Manchester, Iowa
St. Rosalie Catholic Church, Harwood Heights, Illinois

2011 Junior Open Hearts Award Winning Congregations

All Saints Catholic Academy, Naperville, Illinois
St. Catherine Laboure Catholic Church, Glenview, Illinois
St. Thomas The Apostle, Phoenix, Arizona
Our Lady of the Light Catholic Church, Cubero, New Mexico
Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Seboyeta, New Mexico

Examples of projects supported by 2011 Open Hearts Award cash grants include: creating a curb cut on a city street in front of an accessible church entrance, installing an elevator, remodeling washrooms for accessibility, installing automatic door openers, resurfacing an existing exterior church ramp and adding a canopy, removing pews to create accessible seating areas, building a ramp to a cafeteria for a student who uses a wheelchair, installing two concrete accessible parking spaces in a gravel parking lot.

About the Open Hearts Awards

Since 1998, Pathways Foundation has distributed more than \$125,000 through its Open Hearts Awards program, granting funds to houses of worship nationwide that have

already taken action to include worshippers of all abilities and who have specific projects to improve accessibility and inclusion. To apply for the grants, congregation members must submit a completed nomination form, along with a description of the congregation's inclusion efforts and a request for funding for a specific planned project. Grant amounts are for up to \$1,000.

Deadline for nominations for the annual Pathways Open Hearts Awards and Junior Open Hearts Awards (nominated by children, ages 5-18) is August 1. Awards are announced in the fall in conjunction with Inclusion Awareness Day. For more information and nomination forms call 1-800-955-2445, visit www.InclusionInWorship.org, or email friends@pathways.org.

About Pathways Foundation

Pathways Foundation is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness about the benefit of early detection and early therapy for children with early motor delays. For more information about the programs of Pathways Foundation visit www.PathwaysCenter.org, www.Pathways.org and www.InclusionInWorship.org.