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**For Immediate Release:**

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## **CHNCT Foundation Partners with DOVE Self-Esteem Fund For the Benefit of At-Risk Teens**

**WALLINGFORD, Conn.** – The Community Health Network of Connecticut Foundation, Inc. recently received a grant from Unilever that will enable the Foundation to partner with the DOVE Self-Esteem Fund for the benefit of at-risk teens.

The Unilever grant will be used to enhance the Foundation's KHAIR program, pronounce "care." KHAIR is a program aimed to boost self-esteem levels in at-risk teens by pairing a child with a hairstylist or barber. That hairstylist or barber in turn commits to providing monthly appointments for the child for one year. The teen also receives product and direction for routine hair maintenance.

This grant will fund the KHAIR program's workshop series, which was launched in August 2009. The workshops are designed to provide teens in the Foundation's KHAIR program additional tools to help elevate their self-esteem and self image. Workshop topics include etiquette, nutrition, financial planning, team building and dress for success. DOVE will also present its renowned self-esteem and body-image workshop, which is part of its Campaign for Real Beauty, a global effort designed to widen today's stereotypical view of beauty.

The Foundation's KHAIR program was unveiled three years ago as a partnership between the Clifford Beers Clinic, Casey Family Services and the Foundation. In 2008, it formed a partnership with The Village for Children and Families, allowing the program to expand into Hartford County.

*The Community Health Network of Connecticut Foundation, Inc. (CHNCTF), founded in 2003, is a public charitable organization concerned with the health of Connecticut residents. Its mission is to advance, support and promote programs and activities that fundamentally improve the health status of the people of Connecticut. As such, the goal is to support the activities of community health centers, and other non-profit organizations that promote health care services to uninsured and medically underserved individuals, youth, children and families in Connecticut.*

*The Foundation is a volunteer-driven organization with an independent and non-funded board of directors who donate their own time to the Foundation without compensation. The Foundation has been designated by the IRS as a 501(c) 3 entity, gifts to which are tax-exempt as charitable contributions.*



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## **Farmington's Gallery Salon to Provide Free Hair Care to Underprivileged Children Salon First in Area to Partner with CHNCT's KHAIR Program**

**Farmington, Conn.** – Gallery Salon, owned by internationally, award-winning hairdresser Gino Moncada and his wife Donna, have entered into a partnership with Community Health Network of Connecticut, Inc. (CHNCT), to provide free hair care to underprivileged children, who would otherwise go without.

CHNCT's KHAIR program, unveiled two years ago in the New Haven area, is a program aimed to boost self-esteem levels in at-risk youth by pairing a child with a hairstylist or barber. That hairstylist or barber in turn commits to providing monthly appointments for the child for one year. They are also asked to provide product and direction for routine hair maintenance at no charge to the child.

Gallery Salon is the first salon in the Hartford area that has signed on as a participant. A kickoff celebration is slated for August 13 at 10 a.m. All media is welcome.

"Gallery Salon has always been happy to participate in any opportunity that benefits the lives of children," said Gino Moncada. "When KHAIR was mentioned to my wife, she recognized the opportunity to help kids in a different way, one at a time, and that by taking part, Gallery Salon could help introduce the program to the Hartford area."

"The exciting thing about this program," added Donna Moncada, "is that it costs the salon little, beside the stylist's time and energy, to connect with a young person, help them gain confidence and feel better about themselves. We are thrilled to help launch KHAIR in Hartford County and hope to assist in its growth and expansion in other areas of the state where children and teens will benefit from the involvement of caring and talented people."

Since opening in 1995, Gallery Salon has provided trend-setting hair styling, facials, massage, nail and makeup services. Its artists often train with the world's fashion leaders to bring the newest hair collections and trends to the Farmington area. The Moncadas proudly boast that their clientele includes everyone from children to soccer moms to celebrities and international models.

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