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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local non-profit EMBRACE hands out over 2000 lbs. of clothing, blankets and food to over 500 homeless civilians and veterans during 2nd Annual “Embrace the Streets”

For its 2010 efforts EMBRACE received a City Council Resolution, from Councilman Carl Demaio, a California Legislature Assembly Resolution, from Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher and a Proclamation from the City of San Diego, from Mayor Jerry Sanders

San Diego, CA, November, 2010— For the second year in a row, EMBRACE, a nonprofit organization that mobilizes college students to address San Diego community needs through volunteering and service learning, teamed up with local students, elected officials and community members to host the 2nd annual “Embrace the Streets” event for San Diego’s homeless; giving out more than 2000 lbs. in clothing and bedding, in addition to over 550 hot meals.

On Sunday, November 14, 2010, over 500 homeless civilians and homeless veterans living on the street, or in temporary housing, received blankets, clothing and prepared food from 100+ college students and at-large members of the community; particularly San Diego City College and San Diego State students, along with young alumni from UCLA.

In addition, food was delivered by the college students to the 140+ homeless veterans that reside at the Veterans Village San Diego.

The “Embrace the Streets” effort began with a week-long clothing, blanket and sheets drive that yielded over 1000 lbs. of goods. The materials were acquired through donations from the community at Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher’s Office, Hilton San Diego Bayfront, DoubleTree Club of San Diego and drives on the campuses of SDSU San Diego City College, from November 1st through the 7th.

The food portion of the event was made possible by The San Diego Food Bank, donating 1000 lbs. of meat, Feeding America, donating vegetables, and Specialty Produce that provided discounted supplemental food items.

All of the food was prepared, cooked and packaged for distribution by the culinary team at The Hilton San Diego Bayfront, supervised by Senior Banquet Chef Mikery Hatfield.

California Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher and a majority of his staff were on hand to work with the students to distribute clothing and food to the homeless.

All clothing and blankets were distributed by college student volunteers on a lot owned by Dean Oliver and Oliver McMillan Real Estate on Island Avenue between 15th and 16th Streets from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sponsors and participants in this year's event included: SDG&E; The California Endowment; Grainger; Director Johnny Eaddy and the San Diego State University Physical Plant Department; Dean Oliver & Oliver McMillan Real Estate Services and Development; San Diego Food Bank; SDSU Office of Diversity; The Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel and Human Resources Department; Chef Mikery Hatfield and Hilton San Diego Bayfront chefs; DoubleTree Club San Diego; Elite Show Services, Finest City Paper; San Diego City College Associated Student Government; San Diego City College, BEAT; SDSU Undergraduate Social Workers Association; SDSU Civilia; Veterans Village San Diego; San Diego Alpha Project and NIKA Water.

For more information about Embrace and its programs, visit www.embrace1.org

About Embrace

In 2007, Sean Sheppard began volunteering his time to feed the homeless once a week with the San Diego Chargers and soon discovered that he had a passion for improving the lives of the homeless population. Embrace, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is now connects universities and local government to create a community outreach/service learning model that utilizes college students to remedy community problems such as health homelessness on a volunteer basis. His ultimate goal is to bring about legislation that makes community service mandatory for all college students that attend state funded institutions of higher education.

Visit www.embrace1.org for more information.

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