



## **Hope Ministries**

Bethel Mission

Door of Faith

Hope Family Center

Hope Bargain and Community Outreach Center

Hope Café

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Local News

DAY DATE, 2007

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### **Hope Ministries' Honored for Financial Integrity**

*"Our membership in good standing with ECFA means we've excelled in financial integrity and responsible stewardship," said President/CEO Leon Negen.*

Des Moines— Hope Ministries has received news that, following a review of its stewardship practices, the ministry is a member in good standing with Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) for the 2007 year.

"The ECFA hold Christian nonprofits to high standards and strict accountability in financial and management practices," noted Leon Negen, President/CEO at Hope Ministries. "Our standing assures donors we are a nonprofit they can trust."

Donor confidence is a priority for Hope Ministries. "We don't accept any government funding that might compromise our ability to share the Gospel with our clients. Instead we rely on private support and the generosity of the general public to sustain our work with the homeless, hungry and hurting in our community," Negen explained. "Membership with the ECFA demonstrates Hope Ministries is using donor dollars wisely and efficiently."

ECFA requires that member nonprofits adhere to seven standards of responsible stewardship (<http://www.ecfa.org/?PageName=7standards>) including board, auditing and use of resource requirements among others. The organization also cites a "Donors' Bill of Rights" (<http://www.ecfa.org/?PageName=DonorBOR>) to protect and inform donors and potential donors.

“It is a privilege to participate in the ECFA and we don't take our membership lightly,” Negen said, noting that his staff prays over donor gifts, asking God to help the ministry use its contributions with wisdom.

Negen said donors are the backbone of Hope Ministries: “They provide sacrificial dollars that allow us to feed, shelter and provide recovery programs for homeless men, women and children daily at our three facilities.”

In 2006 alone, Hope Ministries provided 50,468 nights of shelter and 118,809 free meals for the homeless and near homeless. The ministry has provided more than 660,000 meals with private funding since 2001 here in Des Moines. “We value our donors because they make these services possible and we value our ECFA standing because it insures our donors can trust us to provide those services with integrity,” Negen said.

To learn more about Hope Ministries and its membership with the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, contact David Burrier, chief development officer, (515) 265-7272 or [info@hopeiowa.org](mailto:info@hopeiowa.org).

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