

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Heart Gallery Makes Its First Public Appearance

February 5, 2008 – At 2pm today, the Children's Network of Southwest Florida and a Third Street Market will set up the first public exhibit of The Heart Gallery of Southwest Florida in the Third Street South Plaza in downtown Naples. The Heart Gallery™ is an inspirational portrait exhibit of children currently available for adoption in Southwest Florida. Currently, there are more than 100 children awaiting adoption in our community of Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades Counties. 30 children will be featured in this display; these children have no identified families waiting to adopt them.

Several noted area photographers have donated their time to create one-of-a-kind portraits of the children of our community who share the dream of finding a “forever home”. This moving exhibit will travel throughout Naples and then around Southwest Florida in hopes of finding permanent, loving homes for these children.

The original Heart Gallery™ was founded by the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) in 2001 as an innovative way to help waiting children connect with adoptive families and has since spread throughout the country to more than 80 chapters. Since inception, more than 1000 children have been adopted through the due to the creation of a Heart Gallery.

For more information on how you can help the Heart Gallery of Southwest Florida in its mission to find “forever homes” for the children of our community or for more information on adoption, please call 239.226.1524 or visit the website at [www.heartgalleryswfl.org](http://www.heartgalleryswfl.org).

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