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### **Greenwich Resident Launches Ubuntu Africa C.F. Roe Slade Foundation to Provide Seed Financing**

**Greenwich, CT – May 30, 2007** – The recently founded not-for-profit corporation, Ubuntu Africa (UBA), which is dedicated to providing support services and facilitating access to lifesaving healthcare for children, teens, and pregnant women, today announced that it has successfully secured initial financing in the form of a \$50,000 grant from The C. F. Roe Slade Foundation. UBA is a community-based program that will operate in Khayelitsha, a township located near Cape Town, South Africa, where it is seeking to address the overwhelming needs of young people and pregnant mothers who are HIV-positive.

UBA's initial objective is to establish a center for HIV positive children and teens with the potential to expand in scope as financing and local demand warrant. The center plans to provide on-site healthcare workers, nutritious meals, transportation to clinics and access to life-saving medicine. Children will also be offered counseling, HIV education and empowering activities such as art, yoga and surfing lessons. These are critical offerings that are not currently available in Khayelitsha, which is the largest township outside of Cape Town and has one of the highest incidences of HIV in the country. The community's high levels of crime, unemployment and poverty make access to treatment and management of the illness particularly difficult.

“The Slade Foundation's generous support is tremendously exciting because it enables a successful launch of our South African operations,” said Whitney Johnson, founder and Executive Director of Ubuntu Africa. “Our program is entitled Ubuntu which is a core African belief in mutual support and emphasizes the principle of caring for each other's well being. We are focused on having our program up and running as soon as possible but we must continue to seek additional funding to ensure

that we are able to provide our services to all those who desperately need UBA's help now and in the coming years."

Ubuntu Africa is hosting its first informative fundraiser on June 2, 2007 from 4:30-6:30 at the home of Alison Belknap in Bedford Corners. For more information or to participate in the June 2<sup>nd</sup> Fundraiser please contact Whitney Johnson at 914-552-3249 or whitneylpac@gmail.com.

"Currently, there are very few support services offered to HIV positive children and teens in Khayelitsha and after being diagnosed, these young people are frequently left to bear much of the burden of this disease alone. Our organization is developing a comprehensive care program designed to oversee their health and also foster an empowered attitude for these HIV positive young people. With help they can live for many years in good health. We are also committed to encouraging people in the U.S. to participate in battling this epidemic. So far we have had tremendous support from people in the area -we are excited about getting people from our corner of the world more involved with the needs and concerns of teens in South Africa."

### **About Ubuntu Africa (UBA)**

UBA was formed in November 2006 with the mission to address the needs of children, teens and pregnant mothers living in Khayelitsha, South Africa whose lives have been seriously impacted by HIV/AIDS. Its plan is to establish community programs that assist young people and pregnant mothers who have been diagnosed with HIV.

UBA is currently addressing South Africa's need to improve the lives of HIV infected/affected people. According to UNAIDS, every day around 8,000 people under the age of 24 are newly infected with the HIV virus. The majority of HIV cases is in sub-Saharan Africa and fewer than a quarter of the people living with the virus have access to any support services. In South Africa, 5.5 million people are estimated to be living with HIV and the prevalence of the virus continues to increase. An estimated 240,000 children under the age of 15 were living with HIV in South Africa at the end of 2005. It has been estimated that less around 80% of children in South Africa who need to be on medication to treat their HIV are not accessing these drugs-making them very susceptible to illness and death.

### **About the Founder**

Whitney Johnson graduated from Colorado College in 2006, after having spent a year studying abroad in Cape Town, South Africa and volunteering in an orphanage. Ms. Johnson, who is 22 years old, was so moved by the desperate state of HIV-infected children and teens in Khayelitsha that she founded UBA to make a difference. Ms. Johnson is also committed to fostering an empowered attitude towards HIV/AIDS among young people in the United States and engaging them to help battle this epidemic in South Africa.

### **About The C. F. Roe Slade Foundation**

The C. F. Roe Slade Foundation, a private non-operating foundation, was formed in 1965 and was funded almost entirely by the late Marie-Antoinette Slade, a long-time Pound Ridge resident. Mrs. Slade's former residence now houses the Town's offices. In 2001, the Foundation donated the nature preserve behind the Town House, consisting of approximately 15.5 acres, to the Town of Pound Ridge along with a fund intended to assist the Town in maintaining the preserve, now known as the Slade Reserve.

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