

Principal Financial Group donates to Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Project

Washington, DC (BlackNews.com) - In Celebration of MLK Day, Principal Financial Group led by Cain A. Hayes, Head of Operations for the Institutional Market Segment of Principal Financial Group's Retirement & Investor Division presents a contribution of \$25,000 to the Washington, DC Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation, Inc.

To date, the Memorial Foundation has raised \$87 million of the targeted \$100 million needed to complete and preserve the memorial to Dr. King and the ideals of love, hope, democracy, and justice for which he stood. In 1996, the United States Congress passed Joint Resolutions to authorize and establish a memorial honoring Dr. King on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The Memorial will be situated adjacent to the F.D.R. memorial and in direct line between the Lincoln and Jefferson memorials. A ceremonial groundbreaking for the Memorial took place on November 13, 2006. Start of construction is projected for Spring, 2008 and is scheduled for completion in Fall, 2009.

The Principal Financial Group(R) (The Principal (R))(1) is a leader in offering businesses, individuals and institutional clients a wide range of financial products and services, including retirement and investment services, life and health insurance, and banking through its diverse family of financial services companies. A member of the Fortune 500, the Principal Financial Group has \$306.0 billion in assets under management(2) and serves some 18.3 million customers worldwide from offices in Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America and the United States. Principal Financial Group, Inc. is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol PFG.

There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil; but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good.

Romans 2: 9-10

Bob Francis Ford sponsors two "Built Ford Tough" Scholarships

Rusk, TX.- For the 2007-2008 school year, Bob Francis Ford is sponsoring two "Built Ford Tough" college scholarships to help hard-working FFA (also known as Future Farmers of America) students attend the college of his or her choice. Bob Francis Ford has been a proud supporter of the Built Ford Tough college scholarship program for six years and will continue their support this year for one applicant from Alto High School and another applicant from Rusk High School. Completed applications are due by February 15th, 2008.

Ford Motor Company has sponsored the Built Ford Tough collegiate scholarship program since 1997. The program is equally promoted by individual dealerships and Ford Motor Company. This program will award up to 700 FFA members nationwide with a \$1,000 scholarship, each co-sponsored by Ford Dealers like Bob Francis Ford.

The scholarship application process will begin on the FFA website, <http://www.ffa.org/>. Once the student has completed the information portion of the application, he or she will bring the paperwork to Bob Francis Ford for the dealer signature. As a result, the FFA members get

and the official dealer code to be included in the scholarship information. Then the application will be sent to the National FFA for final judging and selection. to personally meet—and thank—the dealer that could possibly help fund their college education.

"Several Bob Francis Ford employees have kids involved in FFA, or the employee has previously been involved in FFA, and know the caliber of individual required to undertake FFA projects," says Bob Francis. "We sincerely believe in supporting our local youth and I thoroughly enjoy meeting with each scholarship applicant individually."

"We're pleased to be able to support the local FFA, as well as Ford Motor Company's support of the National FFA Foundation," says Bob Francis. "All of the FFA scholars we have sponsored have told us how grateful they are for the support, and how the FFA experience has changed their lives. We want to help these future leaders to succeed, and to become viable parts of his or her community."

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