



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Tegan Acree, Hiring for Hope  
310-936-3652  
mediarelations@hiringforhope.org

## **HIRING FOR HOPE LAUNCHES UNIQUE BUSINESS MODEL**

*Model reduces unemployment while simultaneously providing couples with a way to overcome their family building obstacles*

**Atlanta, Georgia, September 1, 2010**—Hiring for Hope, a **501(c)(3)** tax exempt public charity announced that it has opened its doors for business today. In doing so, they launched a nationwide initiative to forge a mutually beneficial (financial and networking) relationship between employers and three distinct demographic groups: **job seekers, couples experiencing a loss and/or obstacles to building their families, and their friends and family members.** Tegan Acree, Hiring for Hope's President, Founder, and mother of two explained, "The populations we serve feel hopeless for very different reasons. However, the private nature associated with the grief and transition experienced during both the job loss and family building processes often discourages individuals from seeking the financial, emotional, and psychological resources that are available."

Consequently, Hiring for Hope's mission is to ease the shared feelings of isolation and hopelessness experienced by these groups by providing them with access to four separate free, safe, secure, and informative online networking/support communities called **Voices of Hope**. Programs are aimed at providing members with not only specific and immediate financial opportunity, but also educational information and resources to empower their future destinies. Hiring for Hope's other complimentary services include:

- **Brave Little Soul Grant Program**
- National **workforce solution services**
- Virtual **job board**
- An e-learning based **Career Transition Toolkit**
- **Hiring Incentive Program**
- Virtual **Memorial Beach Playground**

Tegan describes Hiring for Hope as "A tax exempt public charity, meets career transition service, meets workforce solutions provider, meets an online networking/support community." Hiring for Hope acts as a "career matchmaking service" between employers with job vacancies and job seekers who are searching to land the right career opportunity. When a "match" or hiring placement is made by Hiring for Hope's staff, the organization receives a placement fee from employers.

**--more--**

Employers benefit because they receive tax-deductible services at reduced rates and the benefits of aligning their organization with a social cause. The fees collected from the job placements (along with funding realized from their Business Partnership Program and national fundraising efforts) make it possible for the organization to fund not only their **Brave Little Soul Grant Program**, but all their free online services.

Unfortunately, one in six couples are clinically infertile, 20% of pregnancies end in miscarriage, and 90,000 children die annually before their first birthday. The costs for fertility treatment or adoption services can regularly exceed \$30,000 and the average cost to bury a child is \$10,000. Hiring for Hope's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Michael Acree explained that "A lack of insurance coverage for these expenses (in most states) coupled with a growing double-digit national unemployment rate is contributing to a situation where the basic dream of building a financially strong and sustainable family is becoming unviable ."

The inspiration for founding Hiring for Hope took root after Tegan, a Human Resources executive and volunteer career coach for the last fifteen years, spent the last several years laying workers off before finally losing her own position when it was relocated out of state. Simultaneously, she and her husband endured five years of fertility treatments, lost three children, and then watched helplessly as her Nephew was stillborn at 38 weeks gestation. Today, she and her husband now have two healthy children, one of which was the result of an assisted reproductive technology (ART) procedure that was made financially possible by a grant they received from a pharmaceutical company.

"I was under incredible stress in every area of my life when all this occurred," Tegan recalls. "As a result, I empathize profoundly with others who find themselves in similar situations. With great effort and a huge support system, I am blessed to have overcome and recovered from the obstacles I faced, but some folks never recover from theirs. *Hiring for Hope* is our way of trying to pay forward the kindness and support that we received when we were battling our own family building and career transition life obstacles". The Hiring for Hope launch is timely; International Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Week runs from October 9-15.

To learn more about Hiring for Hope, visit [www.hiringforhope.org](http://www.hiringforhope.org), connect with them on any of the major social media outlets, and/or view the company's overview video by clicking the following YouTube Link : [http://www.youtube.com/user/hiringforhope#p/a/u/0/Q830h\\_zSyyg](http://www.youtube.com/user/hiringforhope#p/a/u/0/Q830h_zSyyg)

###