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For Immediate Release

Wyricks Named Honorary Co-Chairs for Urban Ministries' 2011 Campaign

Linda and Sam Wyrick have been named Honorary Co-Chairs for the 2010-11 Urban Ministries' Annual Fundraising Campaign. Linda Wyrick is a long-time volunteer and former Board Member (1997-2000), who began her service in the agency working in the Crisis Intervention Center in 1995. Over the years Linda has served in various roles, including literally delivering the daily bread to the Food Pantry from the unsold inventories of local grocery stores up until 2008 (when the need to care for an elder relative intervened). Linda was nominated for, and received an award as a *Daily Point of Light* from former President George H.W. Bush in March 2003 for her contributions to Urban Ministries. Sam first worked with Urban Ministries in 1997, assisting with fund raising for the renovations to the facilities at the former location on Semart Drive as a member of the agency's first development committee. Over the years he and his law firm, Wyrick Robbins Yates & Ponton LLP, have been major donors and fund raisers, also providing valuable in-kind services to Urban Ministries.

Anne Burke, Executive Director, asked the Wyricks to chair the annual campaign. "It has been a pleasure working with both Sam and Linda over the years because of their enthusiasm and gracious support to me personally and to the agency as a whole," Burke said. "They are perfect examples of humility and service."

"If Anne asks, we are happy to help; her commitment to the less fortunate in our community is not only inspiring—at this point it is legendary," Sam Wyrick said.

For 30 years, Urban Ministries of Wake County has worked to alleviate the effects of poverty in Wake County by meeting people's basic needs for food, shelter and health care; providing services that promote self-sufficiency; building awareness of the issues of poverty in our community; and leveraging financial support with volunteers and in-kind donations. Urban Ministries Open Door Clinic is the largest and oldest free clinic in Wake County and performed 8,900 medical and diabetes management visits in the past year. Urban Ministries also operates the county's second largest food pantry, which served 8,300 families last year, and the only shelter for single homeless women – The Helen Wright Center for Women.

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