

## March 18, 2008 - Rep. Slaughter Secures \$200,000 for GROUP Ministries Community Services Building

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, March 18, 2008

Rep. Slaughter Secures \$200,000  
for Rehabilitation of GROUP Ministries Community Services Building

BUFFALO,  
NY - Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter  
(D-NY-28), Chairwoman of the House Rules Committee, joined Reverend Arthur Boyd, President and  
Founder of GROUP Ministries today to announce  
\$200,000 she secured in the FY 2008 Federal Budget. The funding will be used to restore the  
exterior of the GROUP Ministries community services building on Jefferson Avenue.

"GROUP Ministries plays an essential  
role providing critical support and services to some of our most vulnerable  
individuals in the city of Buffalo," said Rep. Slaughter. "Their work with victims of substance  
abuse, HIV/AIDS, and the homeless has a tremendous impact on the well-being  
and vitality of the community. I am  
very pleased that I was able to secure this federal funding to assist them to  
continue giving relief to those that need it the most."

"We appreciate  
Congresswoman Slaughter's support to not only improve the condition of our  
building, but to help revitalize the surrounding community," said Reverend Arthur Boyd.

BACKGROUND:

About GROUP  
Ministries

GROUP Ministries, Inc. was established in 1992 with three employees and has grown to now employ 34 full time employees.

Nine programs are run out of the Building on Jefferson Ave. These programs address issues like substance abuse, mental health navigation, HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, and food programs. Seventy families each week are served by GROUP Ministries meal program.

GROUP Ministries is funded through the New York State Department of Health, the US Health Resources and Services Administration, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the City of Buffalo, and Erie Country.

#### About the Community Services Building

The GROUP Ministries building was built in the early 1900s and spans a quarter block along Jefferson Avenue in Buffalo, New York. The building is comprised of three "storefronts" that have been largely joined through interior renovations into a single building.

While the building is structurally sound, the exterior has deteriorated with time and requires restoration. The funding secured by Rep. Slaughter will be used to rehabilitate the architectural design, make façade improvements, and replace doors and windows.

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