

The logo for the Rhonda Walker Foundation is set against a pink background with faint floral patterns. The text "Rhonda Walker Foundation" is written in a white, elegant cursive font.

# Rhonda Walker Foundation

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Rhonda Walker Foundation Hosts 9th Annual Christmas Party**

*Together under one roof, teens, homeless children, mothers and women of the shelter spread joy*

**Detroit, MI** – Another monumental season of giving and love is upon us as the Rhonda Walker Foundation (RWF) prepares to do its part to spread holiday cheer and goodwill. RWF founder and president, Rhonda Walker, the RWF Board, teens and volunteers will host the Foundation's ninth annual Christmas party for families at the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries' Genesis House II homeless shelter on Saturday, December 10, 2011, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The shelter is a three-story former convent that provides transitional housing for over 60 women and their children. It is located at 2015 Webb (at 14<sup>th</sup> Street) in Detroit.

### *Why the Foundation Continues to Give*

The Foundation adopted the shelter nine years ago as part of its annual community outreach project. The purpose of the event is to emphasize the importance of service. "The focus of the Christmas Holiday for children in many cases this time of year is on what they expect to receive," said Walker. "This event encourages our teens to be thankful for what they have and consider what they can share with others to emphasize the true meaning: giving. All the activities are designed to provide RWF teens and volunteers with hands-on opportunities to experience the joy of giving and reinforce the responsibility we all have to help others."

During the holiday party, the RWF family, Board, teens and volunteers will serve residents a hearty holiday feast. The group will also distribute toys to children and gift bags filled with toiletries and other items to the women. The RWF teens will play games and participate in arts and crafts activities with the children.

The women and children of Genesis House II are not the only ones who benefit from participating in the holiday party. While the emphasis is placed on highlighting the benefits of compassion, the activity is also designed to help teens build skills in critical thinking, problem solving, and decision making.

Additional information regarding Rhonda Walker Foundation can also be found on the Rhonda Walker Foundation website at [rhondawalkerfoundation.org](http://rhondawalkerfoundation.org)

#### *About the Rhonda Walker Foundation*

The RWF was founded in 2003 with the mission through our core “Girls into Women” Program to empower inner city teen girls towards becoming strong, confident, successful and moral future leaders. Since our inception eight years ago, we have been accomplishing this mission with the support of our sponsors and volunteers, through monthly programs, workshops and activities. Our career development programs include mentoring, a self-esteem building summer camp, cross country college tours, extensive etiquette, public speaking, goal setting and confidence training, community outreach projects with homeless women and children, and so much more. The dream of founder, Rhonda Walker, is to literally transform the ‘Girls into Women’ while in our program over a five year period, from the 8th grade until they graduate from high school. The program includes an ardent focus on instilling in every student the expectation that college is a must. It means not only preparing them for college with school visits, assistance with college applications, financial aid and scholarships but also providing support while they are in college.”

#### *About the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries*

Founded in 1909, the Detroit Rescue Mission serves Detroit’s needy and homeless. The Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries (DRMM) is a Christian faith-based charitable organization dedicated to meeting the basic needs of humanity, while motivating individuals to rebuild their lives. DRMM programs touch the lives of more than 1,000 men, women, and children each day. To learn more about how to help families in need, call the Genesis House II at (313) 883-5614 or visit the DRMM Web site at [www.drmm.org](http://www.drmm.org).

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