



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Four Connecticut Families Receive Vehicles at the Hartford State Capitol *"Recycled Rides project affects families lives forever"*

Hartford, CT November 23, 2009 —It's the holiday drive that is sure to go farther than all of the others for some families in need; Why? Because four Connecticut families were awarded the gift of a refurbished vehicle.

The Connecticut Collision Repair Specialists Association (CCRS), a member of the National Auto Body Council (NABC), is pleased to announce that the lives of four deserving Connecticut families were changed forever on Monday, November 23rd, 2009 on the north steps of the State Capitol in Hartford, CT. The program, known as "Recycled Rides" sponsored by the National Auto Body Council, nationally, is a program where body shops, parts vendors, and insurance companies work together to literally give someone a lift. The Connecticut Collision Repair Specialists Association, members of NABC, helped take 4 minivans, completely refurbished and delivered them ready to roll, complete with a bow! Lisa Siembab, Executive Director of the CCRS said, "we take cars that need to be refurbished, literally recycled and we completely strip them and put on parts, paint, conduct mechanical repairs, and make them operational and safe."

Special guest Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, as well as about 60 attendees, from all over the auto industry came to the north steps of the Capital to celebrate their accomplishments. The rain soaked day was anything but dreary for Hartford's Jonna and Rannard Washington who will now be able to fit all three kids in their Chrysler Town and Country rather than live on a bus schedule, or worse, walk. "It's a big difference, you don't understand, really big!" Jonna said excitedly as she explored her minivan, "between work and errands and the kids you're always on the go," she added.

The donated vehicles come courtesy of the generous donations of Amica Mutual Insurance, Progressive Insurance, Esurance, and Enterprise Rent A Car. "Recycled Rides™ allows CCRS members to put their superior craftsmanship to benevolent use." stated Lisa Siembab, CCRS Executive Director. "Without the vehicle donations – we could not have made this project happen and we are deeply grateful for our industry colleagues participation."

In total, there were two Nissan Quests and two Town and Countrys ready for departure. Siembab said, "these families are trying to improve their lives, keep their jobs, get food on the table, take their kids to school and we take that for granted. I think today we're going to make a difference in those lives." Before she drove away, Jonna Washington said "This is definitely a blessing and it's a great time of year too."

CCRS member participants include Angelo's Auto Body, North Haven Auto Body, Mike's Towing & Collision, Pete's CARSTAR, Traynor Collision Center, Empire CARSTAR, Breezy Point Auto Body, Ray's CARSTAR, Schaller Auto Body, Collision Automotive CARSTAR, and Stevens Collision Center.

John Curren, CCRS Community Awareness Committee Chairman mentioned, "Our strategic partners readily donated materials to the project without hesitation." Suppliers who provided the parts, paint and materials were Keystone Automotive, Dupont Performance Coatings, Auto Body Supplies & Paint, Paul Francis & Co., Finish Master, Payless Auto Glass, Bishop Auto Parts, County Line Nissan, Precision Auto Glass, Mallory Tires, Route 16 Auto Parts, Napoli Nissan, Stevens Chrysler, West Springfield Auto parts, Firestone Tires, McLouglin Towing, Stevens Chrysler Auto Group, and Town Fair Tire, NAPA.

CCRS partnered with two Connecticut non-profits: Hands On Hartford and New Haven Home Recovery, Inc. who selected the recipients on behalf of the association. This is the first cooperative project between the three associations.

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About Hands On Hartford

Hands On Hartford is a Hartford-based private non-profit, non-sectarian social services agency that works in partnership with others to "strengthen community in Hartford by responding faithfully to people in need through programs that change lives and renew human possibility." The agency operates school-based educational programs for children and their families, residential and supportive services for people living with HIV/AIDS and a variety of basic needs programs (soup kitchen and food pantry, resource and referral services, weekend dining and meals-on-wheels programs for seniors and the disabled). Founded as Center City Churches, the agency changed its name to Hands On Hartford in 2006 and became the first social service agency recognized as an affiliate of

Hands On Network – a 250-member national organization intent on mobilizing and redefining volunteerism and civic engagement throughout the nation. Hands On Hartford is supported by donations from individuals, civic and religious organizations, government, corporate and foundation grants, and the volunteer efforts of more than 2,000 dedicated volunteers. For more information, visit: www.handsonhartford.org.

About New Haven Home Recovery

NHHR has been providing supportive services and housing to families for the past 19 years. The agency's mission is to promote the independence of women and children confronting homelessness, HIV/AIDS, and behavioral health issues in a supportive environment where their potential can be realized. NHHR operates two emergency homeless shelters for women and children, over 100 units of supportive housing for families and two family stabilization programs, one in Fair Haven and one in Bridgeport. In addition, NHHR operates a regional furniture bank called The Furniture Co-Op, which provides donated furniture to households in need. For more information, visit the Web site at www.nhhr.org.

About CCRS: The Connecticut Collision Repair Specialists consists of professionals from all segments of the collision industry working together to expand and improve the industry and open lines of communication through training opportunities, open forums and involved cooperation. It is committed to the future of the collision repair industry, providing the leadership needed, raising the professional image of the individual and the industry, and developing new leaders to carry its goals forward. For more information on CCRS visit: www.ctcrs.com

About NABC: NABC is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the image of the collision industry. Its ongoing and continued success is a direct result of the efforts and support of sponsoring companies and membership. Please contact NABC directly for membership information at 1-888-667-7433 (888-66PRIDE) or go to www.autobodycouncil.org.