

For Immediate Release

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SC's first free school supply store for teachers receives \$7,000 grant

Teachers' Supply Closet set to open in December

(October 24, 2007)—Teachers' Supply Closet, a new Charleston-based non-profit with a mission to provide free school supplies to area teachers, has received a \$7,000 grant from the Coastal Community Foundation.

Teachers' Supply Closet will announce the grant during a fundraising breakfast celebrating the upcoming opening of its free school supply store for teachers. The breakfast will be held on Thursday, November 1, 2007, 8 a.m., at The Riviera at Charleston Place Hotel (225 King Street).

"Providing the best classroom experience for our elementary and secondary school children in the Charleston area is vital to the future economic success of our city and region," said Dorothy Harrison, President of Teachers' Supply Closet.

TSC is a 501(c)3 organization founded to support Lowcountry teachers, who spend an average of \$1,000 out of their own pockets to buy school supplies for students. With 21,000 Charleston County students on the free and reduced lunch program, many families simply cannot afford adequate school supplies, leaving teachers without the resources they need for classroom instruction.

In December, Teachers' Supply Closet will open a 2,800-square-foot store in the Ashley Landing Shopping Center off Sam Rittenburg Boulevard full of donated school supplies for teachers. This will be the first free school supply store in South Carolina, modeled after similar programs across the country that belong to the umbrella organization called SHOPA Kids in Need Foundation.

TSC was founded in 2005 with support from the Charleston chapters of The Links, Inc. and Jack & Jill of America, along with dozens of volunteers. To learn more about Teachers' Supply Closet, visit www.teacherssupplycloset.org.

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The media is invited to attend the November 1st breakfast. Please contact Dorothy Harrison at 727-2530 or info@teacherssupplycloset.org for attendance information.

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