

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Nancy Nolt
407.260.9155 ext. 13
nancy.nolt@thesharingcenter.org



The Sharing Center Welcomes Shepherd's Hope

Longwood, Florida -- April 25, 2007 -- The Sharing Center is pleased to welcome Longwood Shepherd's Hope Health Center, a volunteer clinic offering free medical care for uninsured, working families, to its plaza in Longwood.

Nationwide, eight of 10 working people do not qualify for government assisted health care plans, and are forced to choose between health care and basic needs of food, clothing and shelter. Children, women and men in these low-income families make up 98% of the people seeking help from The Sharing Center.

The Sharing Center purchased Fairmont Plaza two years ago with a goal of establishing a one-stop non-profit center, where families struggling to live on very limited income may find help with a variety of needs and assistance to a more stable future.

"The opening of Shepherd's Hope in our plaza is a big step toward creating this one-stop center to better address the problem and needs of poverty in our community," said Angie Romagosa, president of The Sharing Center. "We look forward to partnering with more non-profits the caliber of Shepherd's Hope to address the crushing needs of children, the elderly and whole families struggling to cope with the many hardships of poverty."

Cindi Kopelman, president of Shepherd's Hope, said "We are excited about the opening of Longwood Shepherd's Hope Health Center – our ninth free health center in central Florida – and eager to work with The Sharing Center to provide quality care for those in most need in Seminole County. The response from the medical and faith community has been overwhelming, with over 400 doctors, nurses and lay volunteers joining the effort to bring health and healing to many vulnerable Seminole County residents."

The Sharing Center is located in Fairmont Plaza, 600 N. Hwy. 17-92, Longwood, approx. 1 mile north of Hwy. 434. Phone 407-260-9155 ext. 13. *Easing the stress of families in financial crisis and helping to prevent homelessness*

###