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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHICAGO NPO STARTUP, BENEVOLENT.NET, SURPASSES \$10K IN ONLINE DONATIONS

Chicago, May 1st, 2012 / Benevolent Press Release /

Benevolent.net passed a milestone in contributions from supporters this past week by raising more than \$10,000 through a new online platform that seeks to empower individuals to donate directly to help low-income adults overcome a hurdle or challenge. Launched on December 1st, 2011, Benevolent's unique and secure giving model allows donors to contribute to directly meet needs not met by traditional social services; meeting these needs will help low-income adults move forward toward their goals. See *Emily's success story below*.

About Benevolent

Benevolent.net is a groundbreaking nonprofit organization that connects people who face hurdles along their paths to stability with people who want to help. Unlike traditional giving, Benevolent provides a platform for direct personal connection between individuals, coupled with the security of a trusted validation process, possible only through Benevolent's model of partnerships with local nonprofits.

This startup was conceived of and launched by Chicago-area leader Megan Kashner. The mission of Benevolent is to bring dignity and self-determination to both sides of the giving equation, illuminating the realities of life on the edge of sustainability.

Success Story – Emily

Emily was in an abusive relationship and needed to move as quickly as possible with her 4 children to a safe and secret location. As the date for the security deposit drew nearer, word went out via Benevolent's website and social media channels, and within 24 hours Emily's need went from less than half-funded to fully-funded. Benevolent sent the funds contributed by 17 supporters from around the US to the nonprofit that had validated Emily's need. Read Emily's full story and watch her video [here](#).

Benevolent's stats to date:

23 needs fully funded by **213** contributors, with **\$11,070** donated.

For more information about Benevolent.net, to schedule an interview with founder and CEO Megan Kashner, or to schedule an interview with a Benevolent recipient, please contact Paul J. Crossey: 872.216.3401 / paul@benevolent.net.

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