



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HOUSTON FURNITURE BANK MAKING EMPTY HOUSES HOMES FOR 20 YEARS!

HOUSTON – In celebration of 20 years of charitable giving, the Houston Furniture Bank is marking its anniversary with a Gala on Thursday, Nov. 8 at 7 P.M. in the beautiful lobby of the iconic Williams Tower.

As it does annually, the Houston Furniture Bank will pay tribute to prominent Houstonians who have been of service to the Furniture Bank. Houston furniture magnate, Jodie Hoffer and long-time supporter and volunteer, Ann Cummins will be honored that evening. Gala Chairs Gloria Nino, President of Nino and Associates and Jackie Bebczuk, Sr. Vice President of Providus will co-chair what will be a memorable night of community largesse in behalf of the Houston Furniture Bank, a 501 c3 organization, whose mission is to donate lightly used furniture to the disadvantaged of the Greater Houston-Galveston area.

This year's event will feature fabulous food from some of Houston's top area restaurants, live music and wonderful entertainment. New this year will be the prospect of a WISH LIST and BIG BOARD ITEMS that are expected to draw a lot of attention.

“2012 has been a tremendous year for the Houston Furniture Bank,” said Oli Mohammed, Executive Director of the Houston Furniture Bank. “We launched our Mattress Recycling Program in order to be environmentally responsible, and by potentially saving hundreds of thousands of mattresses from Texas landfills, we have also created jobs and launched a new source of income, allowing us to help more families. We have so much to celebrate at this year's Gala, but with growth always comes the need for more resources. We encourage the community to attend this monumental Gala, as we hope to continually better the lives of our city's underprivileged families,” Mohammed added.

All proceeds from the Gala, which is the Houston Furniture Banks major source of funding, help provide furniture and household items to more than 1,000 needy families each year. Since its inception, the Houston Furniture Bank has served over 80,000 individuals with furniture and other household goods. “It is our mission to provide necessities, such as tables and beds to families so they no longer have to eat from the floor, or lay in boxes to sleep.” said Mohammed.

In the Past, the Houston Furniture Bank Galas have attracted a virtual Who's Who of Philanthropists and Socialites. Past honorees have included: Tilman Fertitta, Mama Ninfa, Tony Vallone, Dr. Steven Schnee, Tom Landry, Janet Ely, Ralph Marek and Radio Personality Rod Ryan.

Individual tickets are available for \$100. To purchase tickets or inquire about sponsorship levels go to www.fb-houston.org or contact Stephanie Presenti at Stephanie@relo-nino.com or 713-212-4801.

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Founded in 1992, the Houston Furniture Bank is a nonprofit that provides basic furniture to Houston's needy. By working with 70+ nonprofit partner agencies, the Houston Furniture Bank assists individuals that are at or below the extreme poverty level, those with mental and physical disabilities, single women with children, people recovering from chemical dependencies, and those affected by natural disasters such as Katrina, Rita, and most recently, Ike. For more information, visit <http://www.fb-houston.org> or call (713) 842-9771.

Media Contact: Stephanie Presenti, Stephanie@Relo-Nino.com, (713) 212-4801