

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Macon Department of Economic and Community Development Awards Out & Up, Inc. \$20,000 Grant**

Macon, Georgia (June 2007)-Out & Up, Inc was awarded a \$ 20,000 grant from the Macon Department of Economic and Community Development during the recent award of Community Development Block Grant funds to the Macon community. These funds have been earmarked for the renovation of property purchased on Emory Avenue. Previously a source of blight and illegal activity, this property will be renovated into an Early Child Care Center serving children ages 0-3 years old..

This award supports the mission of Out & Up, Inc which is to provide services to the community that will enhance its educational, physical, emotional, and spiritual well being.

Out & Up, Inc plans to begin the renovation process within the month and to open the facility by summer of 2008. At least 25% of the children to be enrolled will be from economically challenged families. The Board and staff hope to offer a holistic approach to serving the child and the family.

H. Larry Eason, CEO of Out & Up, Inc, and Pastor of the Greater Little Rock Baptist Church, the home of this outreach ministry arm, expressed his elation at the award. Pastor Eason stated, "It will take the combined effort of government, churches, civic organization, and loving and caring individuals working in concert to positively address the many needs of our community".

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The mission of Out & Up, Inc. is to provide services to the community that will enhance its physical, educational, emotional and spiritual development.