

Contact: Carrie Blewitt, Qorvis Communications, (202) 683-3216, cblewitt@qorvis.com

Horatio Alger Association Announces Partnership with Give US Your Poor Organizations Collaborate to Offer College Scholarships to Homeless Youth

WASHINGTON, August 1, 2010– The Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, Inc. is announcing a strategic partnership with Give US Your Poor: The Campaign to End Homelessness, in an effort to welcome homeless and at-risk youth to apply for the Horatio Alger Scholarship Programs.

Beginning August 1, 2010, homeless and at-risk students are encouraged to visit the Horatio Alger Scholarship application online at www.horatioalger.org/scholarships to determine eligibility and to apply for a college scholarship to a two or four-year accredited college in the U.S. Give US Your Poor will assist with announcing the scholarships and marketing them to a national network of homeless organizations and people across the U.S. to increase awareness of this life-changing scholarship opportunity.

In 2011, the association will award nearly 1,000 scholarships to high school students, in every state, who have overcome great adversities and challenges in their lives by demonstrating excellence in academics and participating in extracurricular activities and community service.

"The mission of the Horatio Alger Association is to recognize and honor those who have overcome adversity in life. Therefore, providing homeless students with the chance at a higher education is an exciting and fitting goal for this partnership," said Paul Anthony Novelly, president and CEO, Horatio Alger Association. "We are proud to work with such an esteemed organization as Give US Your Poor, that shares our aspiration to provide a better life for at-risk youth."

"Give US Your Poor is about dispelling myths and promoting lasting solutions to homelessness," said John McGah, the founding director of Give US Your Poor. "We know that one of the most effective leverage points in preventing homelessness is education. The Horatio Alger Association is a very special organization that dramatically improves opportunities for Americans of all backgrounds who have overcome adversity. The fact that our partnership will help to provide a college education to students who have been without the most basic of supports-- a home-- is very uplifting."

Kyla Middleton of Massachusetts is an extraordinary example of how these non-profit organizations have worked together previously to provide college scholarships to homeless students. Kyla was homeless at the age of 12, yet made great strides in her life despite this extreme obstacle. She diligently attended school every day, honed her musical talents and became a public spokesperson and presenter on homelessness. In November 2007, Kyla was invited to perform a song with world-renowned tenor and International Ambassador for the association, Mario Frangoulis, at a Give US Your Poor and Horatio Alger Association concert in Boston. Following the performance, Mario presented Kyla with the Horatio Alger Association's



National Scholarship of \$20,000. Kyla set a striking precedent for how a continuing partnership could be fruitful and also serve to inspire other homeless youth to follow in her resilient and determined footsteps.

Directly inspired by the Horatio Alger Association scholarship award to Kyla, Give US Your Poor, which is part of the University of Massachusetts Boston's McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, and the university's chancellor, Dr. Keith J. Motley, established a 4-year scholarship to be awarded every year to a student that has experienced homelessness. "This ongoing partnership of trying to help homeless students now is expanding even further—nationwide," said McGah.

The Horatio Alger Association's strategic partners provide essential collaboration in advancing the mission of the association and promoting its scholarship programs among those most in need. "The missions of our strategic partners underscore the mission of the Horatio Alger Association in recognizing excellent contributions to society and the virtue of perseverance despite adversity," added Novelly.

To see more of the association's strategic partnership, visit www.horatioalger.org/strategicpartners.cfm.

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About the Horatio Alger Association

Founded in 1947, the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans continues to fulfill its mission of honoring the achievements of outstanding individuals in our society who have succeeded in spite of adversity and of encouraging young people to pursue their dreams through higher education. The Horatio Alger Association offers three annual scholarship programs: the National Scholarship Program, state scholarship programs, and graduate grants. Since 1984, the association has awarded more than \$70 million in college scholarships to deserving young people. The association is a Combined Federal Campaign participant; #77062. For more information, please visit www.horatioalger.org.

About Give US Your Poor

Give US Your Poor is a national, non-partisan public education and action initiative based at UMass Boston's McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies. Its mission is to dispel myths and promote structural solutions to homelessness with the general public and leaders through a comprehensive approach. It works to affect change at the policy level and engage volunteerism and contributions at the individual and corporate levels through media, technology and education; and to channel support to partner homeless organizations. Among its partners are national and local homeless organizations, celebrity actors and musicians, politicians, researchers, and homeless people. Additional components to Give US Your Poor include documentary film, classroom curricula, community forums, and a nationally acclaimed music CD featuring homeless artists and national recording stars such as Bruce Springsteen, Jon Bon Jovi, Natalie Merchant, Pete Seeger, Mario Frangoulis, Sweet Honey in the Rock, Jewel, Keb' Mo', Bonnie Raitt and many others. For more information, please visit www.giveusyourpoor.org.