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**Shelter of Flint Executive Director
Wins 2009 Sybyl Award**

(December 30, 2009) FLINT, Mich. – Resource Genesee honored Shelter of Flint Executive Director Gary Haggart with the 2009 Sybyl Award for his contribution to the Flint community. The award was given at Resource Genesee’s Annual Holiday Luncheon at First Presbyterian Church in Flint in late December.

In its second year, the Sybyl Award was created in remembrance of Resource Genesee’s creator and longtime community activist Sybyl M. Atwood. The award is designed to highlight Atwood’s many remarkable attributes and to annually acknowledge a community member who exemplifies Atwood’s energy, outlook and dedication to helping others. This year, 15 community activists were nominated to receive the award.

Haggart’s resume boasts years of service in the Flint community. He spent his career in the non profit sector, beginning with Flint’s Probate Court for Youth Offenders, moving onto the Flint Downtown Development Authority and later directing Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint. During his time as Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters, Haggart extended its services to include high school mentors and developed the organization’s now largest fund raiser: Bowl for Kids’ Sake. Haggart keeps himself busy these days directing Shelter of Flint, a comprehensive program for homeless women, children and families, and serving on the Board of Directors for the Genesee County Habitat for Humanity.

Haggart uses his entrepreneurial talent to serve the greater good, founding the grassroots beautification program Keep Genesee County Beautiful and initiating the founding of 100 Men 100 Boys, a mentoring program matching African American men and boys. A mentor to six boys and a foster parent to another, Haggart demonstrates extreme compassion for those less fortunate than he.

About Shelter of Flint, Inc.

Since 1983, Shelter of Flint has been integrating programs and services with safe, affordable housing to help low income and homeless individuals and families achieve independence and stability in Genesee and Lapeer counties. Shelter of Flint offers emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing, rental assistance and outreach programs for over 1,300 women, children and families each year. More information can be found at www.shelterofflint.com.

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