



MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2011

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HPARD Teams Up With Wal-mart and the National Recreation and Park Association in “Fighting Hunger Together” Campaign

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD) is teaming up with the Wal-mart Foundation and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) to combat childhood hunger in Houston this summer. Through a generous gift from the Wal-mart Foundation, the NRPA has presented HPARD with a \$50,000 grant to expand its service to youth ages 1 – 18 through the Summer Food Service Program. On average, HPARD and its registered agency groups provide more than 26,000 meals per day each summer for area youth.

WHO: Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department
Daniel Morales, the Wal-mart Foundation
Jimmy O’Connor, the National Recreation and Park Association
Johnny Adams, Acting Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Texas Department of Agriculture Food & Nutrition Division

WHAT: Announcement and celebration of the beginning of HPARD’s Summer Food Service Program with 30 – 40 young people enjoying a nutritious lunch at City Hall

WHEN: June 14, 2011
Press Conference 12:00 p.m.
Mayor’s Proclamation 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: City Hall
901 Bagby
Houston, TX 77002

Since 1984, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department has sponsored the Summer Food Service Program, which is funded through the United States Department of Agriculture and administered through the Texas Department of Agriculture. The program provides free, nutritious lunches and snacks to children ages 1 through 18 at more than 464 sites across the Greater Houston area. The grant will enable HPARD to disseminate information about this opportunity to more families in the area.

For additional information about Wal-mart’s recently announced commitment to help end hunger in America through its “Fighting Hunger Together” initiative, please visit www.walmartfoundation.org. For information about the National Recreation and Park Association and Wal-mart’s grant, please visit www.NRPA.org.

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD) stewards and manages over 38,992 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational

programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit www.houstonparks.org.