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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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DiscoverHope Hires New Executive Director

Austin, TX – DiscoverHope is pleased to announce the hiring of Jennifer Edwards for the position of Executive Director effective May 2011. Edwards will direct the day-to-day management and growth of DiscoverHope from the Austin headquarters and travel to Peru to work with the field-based Peru Program Manager and support partners. Executive Director for the past 5 years, Maggie Miller, will continue her role as founder of the organization by serving on the Board of Directors.

“I feel ecstatic that DiscoverHope has grown to the place where we can hire an expert Executive leader to continue guiding our team,” said founder Maggie Miller. “Jennifer Edwards shines with the executive energy we were seeking. Under her guidance, we look forward to growing into a more mature, well rounded nonprofit.”



Jennifer Edwards commented, “I truly believe I have spent my career in preparation for the role I play today with DiscoverHope. Over the years I have seen and worked with hundreds of nonprofit organizations. Very, very few have ever matched the tremendous merging of head and heart that is demonstrated among the people of DiscoverHope – starting with our board, staff and passionate supporters here in Austin and flowing down and into the local villages where we work in Peru.”

Edwards boasts over 15 years of extensive nonprofit leadership experience with an emphasis on fund development, operational innovation, and strategic planning. Prior to joining the DiscoverHope family, Jennifer held a variety of leadership positions in the Central Texas nonprofit community, most recently as the founding Chief Executive Officer of United Way of Williamson County. Other organizations she has contributed to include Helping Hand Home for Children, United Way Capital Area, Keep Texas Beautiful, March of Dimes, Paramount Theatre, and Austin Shakespeare. Jennifer has a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre & Dance from the University of Texas at Austin. Along with her commitment to DiscoverHope Fund, Jennifer also volunteers in the Film Archives of the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas.

About DiscoverHope

DiscoverHope is an international non-profit whose mission is to provide opportunities for women in poverty to create their own prosperity through microcredit, entrepreneurship, and training. Their work serves women living on \$2 a day in developing nations so they can shape their own destinies through creation of entrepreneurial businesses. In three years, DiscoverHope has funded more than 325 loans and 800 development classes for 1,900 participants who have asked for trainings related to traditional literacy, health education, business, culinary, computer, artisan skills and more. Loan recipients have reported more

than \$9,000 in new income generation directly related to skills and knowledge obtained in classes provided by DiscoverHope—which cycles directly back into their families and communities.

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