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**Holiday for Hope Event Raises \$31,000 to Support
Austin-Based International Development Nonprofit**

Austin, TX – Through the third annual ‘Holiday for Hope’ event held on Wednesday, December 8, DiscoverHope and its generous supporters raised \$31,000 to provide an opportunity for women in poverty to create their own prosperity through microcredit, entrepreneurship and training. Mayor Lee Leffingwell even showed his support for the local, nonprofit microlender by proclaiming December 8, 2010 as “DiscoverHope Day”.

The event provided Austinites the opportunity to contribute to the prosperity of women living in developing countries by contributing to their small businesses. DiscoverHope featured profiles of business owners being supported by the organization and encouraged financial investment through direct giving as well as a live and silent auction. In addition, attendees had an opportunity to buy fair trade jewelry gifts made by the women in Latin America that DiscoverHope serves.



The money raised will be used to fund additional microloans and entrepreneurial training to women living on less than \$2 a day by using DiscoverHope’s unique and successful “Microcredit Plus” model that implements a dual approach to poverty alleviation. Using this model, DiscoverHope has funded 275 loans with an average loan of \$200 and a 100% payback success rate. More than 1,800 participants have completed over 675 trainings. Loan recipients have reported more than \$9,000 in new income generation directly related to skills and knowledge obtained in the trainings, which cycles directly back into their families and community.

“I am incredibly grateful for the expressions of love given by our community to make a difference in the lives of the women we serve. From this outpouring of love, it is evident that Austinites believe that we can work together to create a world without poverty,” said Executive Director Maggie Miller.

Special supporters included [Thinkwell](#); [KCL Foundation](#); [Cojo Unlimited Catering](#); [Blase Design](#); [FUNAuctions](#); [Winery on the Gruene](#); [Inner Views](#); [Megan Peyton Photography](#).

For additional information, visit www.lendhope.org or call 512-351-9938.

DiscoverHope Fund 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.