



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Chasity Keen Larios  
Director of Community Outreach and Public Relations  
512.940.1393  
[chasityklaros@gmail.com](mailto:chasityklaros@gmail.com)

Event Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2011

Event Time: 5p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Ten Thousand Villages  
1317 S. Congress Avenue  
Austin, Texas 78704

**DiscoverHope Partners with Ten Thousand Villages to Celebrate  
100 Years of International Women's Day on Tuesday, March 8**

*Austin, TX* –DiscoverHope, an Austin-based international development nonprofit organization is partnering with Ten Thousand Villages to honor the 100th Anniversary Celebration of International Women's Day on Tuesday, March 8. International Women's Day, first held in 1911, celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women around the world.

A percentage of the sales made at Ten Thousand Villages from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. will go to benefit the women that DiscoverHope serves. A fair trade retailer, Ten Thousand Villages offers gifts, home decor, jewelry and personal accessories handcrafted by skilled women artisans around the globe. In addition, DiscoverHope will be available to share success stories of women living on less than \$2 that have received microloans and training from DiscoverHope, which helped them generate new income and build a sustainable business.

The proceeds from the event will go to provide microcredit loans to women like Esther Quispe Ramirez, a 22-year old mother of two in Cajamarca, Peru. Ramirez received a \$125 loan to start a grilled meat cart from the front of her home. Ramirez attends DiscoverHope's culinary workshops as well as business and leadership trainings. She learns how to improve her product and how to manage money, reach more customers, grow her business, and build her savings.



DiscoverHope's unique and successful "Microcredit Plus" model implements a dual approach to poverty alleviation—providing microloans and entrepreneurial training to help loan recipients build their businesses. Since 2008, DiscoverHope has funded 325 loans with an average loan of \$160 and a 100% payback success rate. More than 1,900 participants have completed over 800 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.

For more information, visit [www.lendhope.org](http://www.lendhope.org).