



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Youth On Their Own
to honor
developer Michael J. Hanson
for supporting high school
education of homeless youth**

Tucson, AZ, February 22, 2008 - Youth On Their Own (YOTO) proudly announces Michael J. Hanson, NCH-Transwest Properties, Inc. president, is to be honored at the 13th Annual Top of the Town fundraising dinner held to support the high school graduation of Tucson's homeless teens. The event takes place Saturday, March 15, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom at Loews Ventana Canyon Resort, 7000 North Resort Drive in Tucson.

"Mike Hanson possesses an ongoing, exemplary level of corporate social consciousness and generosity coupled with a remarkably humble demeanor," stated YOTO Executive Director Mary Gruensfelder-Cox. "His impact on students is vast, ranging from governance and policy as a member of the Board of Directors and funding student client services to pro bono renovation and maintenance of the YOTO site."

Youth On Their Own, entering its third decade in 2007/2008, has assisted some 9,000 homeless Metro Tucson youth in obtaining their high school diplomas. The local nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization provides financial support, basic human needs and guidance to youth who, through no choice of their own, lack a permanent, stable home and parental involvement.

"Assisting motivated youth in attaining an education is a twofold investment: the most important being that young adults receive the necessary skills to position themselves to lead a successful life and be a productive member of our society," stated Mr. Hanson, a Tucsonan since 1972. "Businesses, individuals and the public sector each share the responsibility of preserving and improving Tucson's quality of life for all residents."

NCH-Transwest Properties, Inc.'s holdings include ownership, operation and development of numerous multi-family real estate, retail, restaurant and commercial properties in Tucson and nationwide. The firm continues to expand with the purchase of Hotel Peñasco in Sonora, Mexico and the recent December 2007 acquisition of the distinctive Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa in Tucson.

The Top of The Town '08 gala to benefit YOTO students kicks off at 5:30 p.m. on March 15th with an auction and no-host bar followed by dinner, live entertainment and dancing. Ticket cost is \$125 per person. To purchase a ticket or table of ten, please contact the YOTO office at 520.293.1136 or visit the agency website at yoto.org for online purchase.

For more details about YOTO, call 520-293-1136 or log onto yoto.org.

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