



Person-to-Person

PRESS RELEASE

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**Person-to-Person Receives \$5,000 Grant for its Scholarship Program
from the Perna Foundation for Hope**

Darien CT, March 18, 2010 – Stamford resident Janet Perna established the Perna Foundation for Hope in 2009 with the aim of helping people attain or regain self-sufficiency. Having reviewed the Person-to-Person programs and services, with particular attention paid to the accomplishments of students receiving financial assistance for college expenses, the Perna Foundation board awarded a \$5,000 grant for the agency's Scholarship Program.

P2P board member Rebecca Wilson, who chairs the Scholarship Committee, underscores the importance of the Perna Foundation grant and others like it by noting that the annual scholarship fund is made up entirely of donations from individuals, organizations and grant-makers. "Over the past five years we've awarded close to \$1.6 million to more than 700 students from low-income families in Fairfield County, many of whom are the first in their family to attend college.

"This grant will help other college students make a positive change in their lives," says Wilson. "We truly appreciate Janet Perna's vision and the foundation's generosity."

About Person-to-Person

Person-to-Person, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency, was originally established in 1968 by St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Darien. Its mission was simple: to bring together the needs of people in disadvantaged areas of nearby communities with the resources of people in Darien and the surrounding areas, thereby providing basic emergency services to low-income individuals and families living in lower Fairfield County. A volunteer-driven agency, Person-to-Person is committed to helping clients achieve self-sufficiency through practical help, advocacy, education and problem-solving initiatives. Programs include Emergency Assistance, Campership and Scholarship. In 2009, Person-to-Person helped more than 24,780 people avert crisis and make ends meet. These efforts are made possible by in-kind donations, a force of more than 2,000 volunteers and financial contributions. More information may be found on the web at www.p2pdarien.org or by calling (203) 655-0048.

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