

January 3, 2006

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Entergy Texas Sponsors First 2006 Mobile Van Site**

**\*\*\*Photo Opportunity: 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.** – Tours of the UTMB mobile mammography van and refreshments will be available for Entergy and media representatives.\*\*\*

**Entergy Texas** will sponsor the **Julie Rogers “Gift of Life” Program’s** first mobile mammography van site of 2006 at **Blessed Sacrament Church, 780 Porter**, on **Tuesday, January 3**, from **8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

There will be a special photo opportunity for Entergy Texas and media representatives from **7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.**, when they are allowed a tour of the UTMB-Galveston’s mobile mammography van, the Oleander. In addition, refreshments will be served.

Nearly **40** free mammograms and clinical breast exams will be made available for medically underserved women on the van. Mammogram recipients will receive educational materials and gifts.

“We consider it an honor to once again partner with the ‘Gift of Life,’ said **Vernon Pierce**, Entergy Texas customer service director. “As the name implies, this is a life-saving program that fills an incredibly important need in Southeast Texas. At Entergy Texas, we are proud to join hands with Regina and ‘Gift of Life’ as an example of our ongoing commitment to make our communities better places to live.”

“Gift of Life” Chair, **Regina Rogers**, praises Entergy Texas for its continued support, “We are proud of our history and long-standing partnership with our friends at Entergy. Each year, they help us reach medically underserved women in our community who otherwise would not have the opportunity to receive these life-saving services.”

“Gift of Life”  
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Originally set for September 29, 2005, Entergy’s sponsored mobile mammography van site at the “Gift of Life’s” Breast Cancer Awareness Month Kickoff at Parkdale Mall had to be rescheduled due to Hurricane Rita. Those with appointments were given the opportunity to reschedule their mammograms for January 3.

As one of the largest cancer screening and awareness programs of its type in Texas, the “Gift of Life” serves more than **5,000** recipients annually. Each year cancer awareness information is disseminated to several thousand individuals at over **50** Sidney “Chief” Dauphin educational outreach presentations and area health fairs; **750** medically underserved women receive free mammograms at Memorial Hermann Baptist Hospitals in Beaumont and Orange; **750** additional women are given free mammograms and clinical breast exams on the UTMB-Galveston mobile van at **20** Southeast Texas van sites; and approximately **500** men receive free prostate cancer screenings. Access to follow-up care for individuals who need testing and treatment following their screenings is also provided at UTMB Galveston. Further, the “Gift of Life” minivan is available for clients who require transportation to and from the program’s cancer screening tests and exams. Other recent endeavors include the formation of a prostate cancer support group, a smoking prevention and cessation initiative, and testicular cancer awareness for area high school students.

A cooperative effort of the Julie and Ben Rogers Cancer Institute, Memorial Hermann Baptist Hospitals, local physicians, the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) at Galveston and its local clinics, the UTMB Cancer Stop Program, and The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, the “Gift of Life” has funded **10,000** free mammograms and **3,500** free prostate cancer screenings, and has conducted more than **300** educational outreach programs since its inception.