



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Broadway Cares Grants \$5,000 to Friends For Life Pantry**

**Memphis, TN, February 7, 2008** - The Nancy Fletcher Food Pantry, one of the oldest and most widely utilized programs offered by Friends For Life, has received a \$5,000 grant from Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.

Friends For Life's food pantry program was named after Nancy Fletcher, a long-time volunteer and former member of the Board of Directors of Friends For Life. The program, named in her honor after her death in 2006, is the largest food pantry in the Mid-South and the largest pantry in the Memphis Food Bank 32-county system, where the majority of the food is acquired. The program distributes over 16 tons (384,000 pounds annually) of nutritious food each month to persons infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, with over 300 children served annually.

Fresh fruits, vegetables, meat, dairy products and nonperishable food items are distributed along with vitamins and personal hygiene products twice per month to all eligible persons affected by HIV/AIDS. The program is also supported with funds from the United Way of the Mid-South, FEMA, the City of Memphis, Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS and the Ryan White Care Act. In addition, Calvary Episcopal Church and Idlewild Presbyterian Church support the vital program.

Pictured above is the area in the agency's basements where food is sorted, bagged and stored prior to distribution and volunteer, John Harkless who displays fresh apples and oranges prior to them being placed in food bags.

