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## **For Immediate Release**

### **Foundation for the Mid South Wins Multiple Wilmer Shields Rich Awards for Excellence in Communications**

**JACKSON, MS (5/07/09)** – The Foundation for the Mid South has received three awards for excellence in communications by the 2009 Wilmer Shields Rich Awards Program. Sponsored by the Council on Foundations, the awards program recognized effective communications efforts to increase public awareness of foundations and corporate giving programs.

The Foundation for the Mid South received the following awards:

Silver – Public Policy Campaign category  
*Changing Lives: An Investment in the Mid South*

Silver – Special Report category  
*Black Male: Why the Mid South Cannot Afford to Ignore the Disparities Facing Its Black men and Boys*

Bronze – Newsletter category  
*The Bridge*

The awards were presented during the Council on Foundations' 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, May 4-6, 2009, at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis in Atlanta, Georgia. "We are honored to be recognized among our peers for our efforts to communicate the Foundation's work," said Ivey L. Allen, president / CEO of the Foundation for the Mid South. "During this economic downturn, it is more important than ever to tell the stories of foundations and nonprofits—especially how they support innovation and work to improve our communities."

The Foundation has won a total of six Wilmer Shields Rich Awards over the last four years. Entries to the awards program included annual or biennial reports, newsletters,

special reports, public policy campaigns, and websites. This year, 199 entries were submitted to the awards program.

**About the Foundation for the Mid South**

The Foundation for the Mid South is a regional community foundation investing in people and strategies that build philanthropy and promote racial, social, and economic equity in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Since 1990, the Foundation has both attracted and leveraged millions of dollars to strengthen communities and improve the quality of life for all Mid Southerners.

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