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Band Together NC Raises More than \$358,000 for StepUP Ministry More than \$1 Million Donated to Local Charities in 10 Years

Raleigh, N.C., May 25, 2010 — As international recording artist [Michael Franti](#) surveyed the crowd outside [Lincoln Theatre](#) in downtown Raleigh on May 22, he knew the rain wouldn't dampen the spirits of the 2,500 concertgoers who came out to hear great music and support [StepUP Ministry](#). "As long as you're here, we'll keep playing," Franti said to raucous applause.

The concert event was the signature fundraiser for [Band Together NC](#) and helped raise more than \$358,000 for StepUP Ministry, an interfaith nonprofit organization that teaches low-income and homeless people to become self-sufficient. With matching funds secured by StepUP, the total amount far surpassed the \$141,000 that Band Together raised for [The Lucy Daniels Center](#) in 2009.

Headlined by Michael Franti & Spearhead, this year's concert event also included performances by [One eskimO](#) from the U.K., "American Idol" finalist [Anoop Desai](#), Chapel Hill's [The Old Ceremony](#), and Greensboro's [Holy Ghost Tent Revival](#), which was still performing encores inside Lincoln Theatre at 1:30 a.m.

In addition to funds raised through ticket sales and corporate sponsorships, an on-site silent auction and raffle for three guitars signed by the artists generated \$18,600. Band Together NC had also secured more than \$88,000 in in-kind donations including food, beverage, signage and promotional services.

Earlier in the week, Raleigh Mayor Charles Meeker officially proclaimed May 22, 2010 as "Band Together Day" in honor of the all-volunteer nonprofit organization that uses music to help raise funds and awareness for charities. Since its inception in 2001, Band Together has donated more than \$1 million to local charities.

"We are extremely grateful to our more than 100 [sponsors](#), dozens of volunteers and to the artists who made this such a memorable event. Trey Caudle and Molly Nichols were standout event co-chairs," said Danny Rosin, president and co-founder of Band Together. "The funds raised will

make a definite impact in the lives of the unemployed and underemployed in our area. I'm very proud to be part of a group of people who see value in supporting music and community.”

StepUP Ministry assists nearly 600 individuals in Wake County every year through its Job Placement and Training Program and Life Skills Program. Since 2004, they have helped more than 950 adults gain employment. The funds raised by Band Together NC will help StepUP hire additional staff and extend their services to even more people in need.

For more information about Band Together NC, visit www.bandtogethernc.org, become a fan on [Facebook](#) or follow @bandtogethernc on Twitter. To learn more about StepUP Ministry, visit www.step-up.us.

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About Band Together NC

Band Together NC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization composed of business and community leaders and volunteers from across the Triangle. Since its inception in 2001, the organization has helped raise more than \$1 million for philanthropic organizations through one mission: using music to raise funds and awareness for local charities. Band Together is run entirely by volunteer efforts. For more information, please visit www.bandtogethernc.org.

About StepUP Ministry

StepUP Ministry is an interfaith nonprofit organization that teaches low-income and homeless people to become self-sufficient (stable job, stable home, stable family). Founded in 1988, StepUP annually serves nearly 600 individuals in Wake County. StepUP offers life-skills preparation with volunteer partners and job training/placement. For more information, visit www.step-up.us or call (919) 781-0156.