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Alonzo Mourning Charities and Florida Virtual School Launch New Student Service Project - On the Move to Improve with Zo's Summer Groove

(Miami, FL) – Today, Alonzo Mourning Charities (AMC) and Florida Virtual School (FLVS) kicked-off a new state-wide summer student service project – *On the Move to Improve with Zo's Summer Groove*. Building upon the community spirit and life-changing mission of this premier summer festival, the new student service project offers an opportunity for students to give back to their communities by developing creative projects and activities that will positively impact the lives of children and other students.

“Our principal focus at Alonzo Mourning Charities is to develop programs and provide support to create positive and lasting changes in the lives of youth. Challenging students to develop new and interesting avenues to support underserved children and families in their communities spreads the spirit and reward of making a difference, while expanding the impact of the Miccosukee Zo's Summer Groove,” said Alonzo Mourning. “As we embark on this new endeavor, we are grateful for this opportunity to partner with the Florida Virtual School and look forward to touching the lives of thousands of children and families in Florida.”

“We are delighted and honored to support the launch of this dynamic project and agree that creating an opportunity for students to give-back to their communities will broaden the impact of the Miccosukee Zo's Summer Groove,” said FLVS President & CEO Julie Young. “This project is a terrific civics lesson and I encourage every student who has ever taken a class with FLVS to look around and see how they can improve the livelihood of the families in their communities.”

On the Move to Improve with Zo's Summer Groove is open to students in grades 6 to 12 who are currently enrolled with FLVS. Teams must submit a registration by **Wednesday, May 30** to participate in the competition. FLVS will approve all team submissions and confirm parental approval for all registrants. Registration can be completed online through the announcement pages of each FLVS teacher or at the school's web site (www.flvs.net). All teams will be required to submit their final report on their community service project no later than **June 25**. Full details about the summer service project and competition rules can be found online at any of the participating organization's web sites (www.flvs.net or www.AMCharities.org).

Each *On the Move to Improve with Zo's Summer Groove* team will be asked to clearly state the purpose of their project, list a community partner or non-profit organization, and outline specific goals for success. All teams will be asked to document their work and prepare a portfolio to demonstrate the impact of the community service project. Team portfolios might include: photos, web sites, PowerPoint presentations, scrapbooks or essays, or any supporting documents used throughout the project, such as research conducted by the team. Representatives from Alonzo Mourning Charities and FLVS will judge each team portfolio and select the top team, who will be awarded an all-expense paid trip to Zo's Summer Groove in Miami, FL where the ultimate winning team will receive an award from Alonzo Mourning. Up to 250 students that have successful submissions (specific criteria apply) will receive two tickets each to attend Zo's Summer Groove.

Zo's Summer Groove (ZSG), now in its 11th year, is a five-day, fun-filled community event scheduled for July 11 – 15, 2007. ZSG, Alonzo Mourning Charities' largest fundraising event, appeals to a diverse audience by offering a variety of events that include: youth basketball clinics, golf tournament, concert, comedy show, benefit dinner, block party, all-star basketball game and numerous after-party functions. ZSG motivates community involvement by encouraging event participants to enjoy a weekend that ultimately benefits South Florida's youth of promise.

About Florida Virtual School

Florida Virtual School (www.flvs.net) is a nationally recognized e-Learning model for developing and providing virtual K-12 education solutions to students throughout the country. Founded in 1997 as a pilot project, FLVS began course development with limited enrollment, pioneering Florida's first Internet-based, public high school—complete with online middle and high school curriculum. Today, FLVS serves schools across the nation, offering virtual education solutions for grades 6 to 12, as well as for adults seeking GED alternatives.

About Alonzo Mourning Charities

Alonzo Mourning Charities (www.AMCharities.org) is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) public fundraising foundation. AMC's mission is to provide support and services that enhance the lives of youth of promise. Since 1997, AMC has raised more than \$6 million for various organizations that aid in the development of children who are vulnerable to at-risk situations.

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