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**WARNER'S FOUNDATION & UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX CONTINUE TO SCORE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN CEDAR RAPIDS**

*-- Two Jane Boyd Recipients Receive Scholarships for Bachelor's Degree --*

**CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa, July 26, 2010** – Giving back to their home state and hometown is important to retired NFL quarterback and Cedar Rapids native Kurt Warner and his wife Brenda. Thanks to a tremendous partnership between their First Things First Foundation and University of Phoenix, First Things First was recently able to bless two individuals associated with Kurt's childhood youth center, Jane Boyd Community House, with scholarships to continue their education.

Eugene Harper and Jessica Frink are the second and third recipients of the First Things First Jane Boyd Scholarship who were awarded July 26<sup>th</sup> at a Jane Boyd fund-raiser at Elmcrest Country Club. Chris Mason, University of Phoenix Des Moines Campus Director was on hand to congratulate the recipients, along with Kurt's mother Sue Warner who also presented them with a Mac notebook as an additional gift from First Things First. The First Things First Scholarship program rewards deserving individuals from pre-selected partner organizations with a scholarship to University of Phoenix to earn their bachelor's degree.

Eugene, 43, is a father of four who has worked at Jane Boyd for three years as a Community Liasion with the Jane Boyd Harambee House. He plans to continue working with at-risk kids in the juvenile system and looks forward to showing his clients and children "that no matter what age you are, education is very important. Have faith and believe anything is possible. Never stop the relentless pursuit to reach your goal." Jessica, 21, is a young mother with a high school diploma working as a bank teller as she supports her toddler daughter. She wants to study finance for a career in banking in hopes of someday teaching young mothers how to better navigate the waters.

"Many of the Jane Boyd families have barriers to work through in order to be self-sufficient; one of the biggest being limited access to higher education," said Amy Grunewaldt, Executive Director of Jane Boyd Community House. "This scholarship eliminates this barrier and provides recipients the opportunity to gain an education that will open additional doors for both the recipient and their family."

First Things First and University of Phoenix have teamed up for the First Things First Scholarship Program to give up to six deserving individuals annually, at pre-selected partner organizations in Phoenix, Cedar Rapids and St. Louis, the opportunity to receive an education, and prepare for a better future. Eugene Harper and Jessica Frink bring the roster to ten recipients overall since the program's inception in 2009.

“We are thrilled to join forces with University of Phoenix to give individuals like Eugene and Jessica the boost they need to reach their dreams,” said Brenda Warner. “I obviously know from experience that when preparation meets opportunity anything is possible,” added Kurt Warner.

### **About the University of Phoenix**

University of Phoenix is constantly innovating to help students balance education and life in a rapidly changing world. Through flexible schedules, challenging courses and interactive learning, students achieve personal and career aspirations without putting their lives on hold. As of May 31, 2010, 476,500 students were enrolled at University of Phoenix, the largest private university in North America. University of Phoenix serves a diverse student population, offering associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degree programs from campuses and learning centers across the U.S. as well as online throughout the world.

### **About the Kurt Warner First Things First Foundation**

Established in 2001, the Kurt Warner First Things First Foundation is a 501(c)3 public charity serving as a vehicle for Kurt Warner and his wife Brenda to reach out to the community and share their blessings with those in need. The First Things First Foundation is dedicated to impacting lives by promoting Christian values, sharing experiences and providing opportunities to encourage everyone that all things are possible when people to seek to put “first things first.” Additional information is available at [www.kurtwarner.org](http://www.kurtwarner.org).

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