



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Turkey Leads the Way in 5K Race benefitting WBC Opportunities Meals on Wheels

Georgetown, TX, 10.01.11 – Saturday morning was one of the most beautiful and cool mornings experienced in Central Texas in many months. And it was a perfect morning for running. Runners and spectators gathered together wearing light jackets as the sun rose and the 3rd annual HarvestFest 5K Family Fun Run began. The event benefitted the WBC Opportunities Meals on Wheels program, the designated Meals on Wheels provider for Williamson and Burnet counties.

The race began with a half-mile Family Fun Run for children, led by Tom the Turkey, the race's mascot. Following the Fun Run, the children went to a supervised children's game area while many parents, teens and other adults ran the 5K race along the beautiful San Gabriel Park's Hike and Bike Trail in Georgetown.

People of all ages participated in the 5K. The youngest runner in the 5K was 9 and the oldest runner was 83. Awards were provided to male and female runners in each category. The overall winners of the race were George Perry (31) of Austin and Kathryn Watson (30) also of Austin who were the first male and female runners to cross the finish line.

"The HarvestFest 5K Run will directly benefit the seniors in our community, allowing them to maintain their independence in their own homes, and ensuring they receive a daily well-balanced meal and visit from a supportive volunteer," stated Andrew Shell, Executive Director of WBC Opportunities.

"We are grateful to our event sponsors and volunteers who have come together to make this event happen. Every dollar raised will go directly toward providing meals for our seniors," Shell continued.

WBC Opportunities has been the Meals on Wheels provider throughout both Williamson and Burnet counties for more than 30 years. Over the past several years, the need for this service has increased significantly as the population has increased both in numbers and in age. The number of meals currently being served has increased to nearly 170,000 meals annually.

Linda Gusnowski, Event Chair, founded the HarvestFest 5K to benefit WBC Opportunities Meals on Wheels three years ago. "Everyone can understand the important role Meals on Wheels plays in the lives of our elderly neighbors. My church, St. John's United Methodist Church in Georgetown, agreed to help me start this race to better serve the elderly in need. Over the years, the event has grown with more volunteers and sponsors from the region as well as a growing number of runners from throughout the Central Texas region."

The popular race will be held again October 6, 2012.

About WBC Opportunities –WBC Opportunities is a private nonprofit charitable organization that has been serving the residents of Williamson and Burnet counties since 1966. In addition to the Meals on Wheels program, WBC Opportunities also manages 6 Senior Activity Centers, operates 13 Head Start campuses, manages 2 affordable housing complexes, and runs Community Services Centers with utility assistance programs, homelessness prevention programs, and budget counseling throughout Williamson and Burnet counties. **-END-**