

For Immediate Release
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Toni Miles To Be Honored By Emanuel Community Center

June, 2010 -- Toni Miles, executive director of the YMCA Black & Latino Achievers Program, is being honored by the Emanuel Community Center as a **Women of Over-the-Rhine Award** recipient for her passion and enthusiasm in helping the neighborhood and in helping to create a diverse, economically thriving community.

Toni is a leader, a mentor, an educator, a mother, and a licensed minister. Impassioned with a will to help others fulfill their God given destiny, she practices what she teaches every day.

Under her direction the YMCA Black & Latino Achievers Program has grown from inspiring 25 to 675 students in the 2009 to 2010 school year. Two new pilot sites were started last year with Cincinnati Public Schools, and an additional site was added at Covington Holmes Junior Senior High School where nearly 60% of its students are eligible for free lunch.

Prior to the YMCA, Toni was a long time volunteer board member and volunteer for Dress for Success. Her skills eventually led to a job there where she created the infrastructure for its financial development department.

Toni's passion runs deep for the community located blocks from her office. As a volunteer she has conducted workshops at the Emanuel Center and served on numerous boards. She is also an Alumna of Leadership Cincinnati Class XVI and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

In 2008 Toni established The Esther Principle Ministries committed to spreading God's word and teaching people life skills for pursuing personal success. She is a member of the International Institute of Mentoring's Council of 12 governing committee and serves as one of its mentors. She is also an evangelist, a co-leader of the Bridge to Serve Ministry and leader of the Job Search Ministry at Solid Rock Church; and a founding member of the Harvest Ranch Cowboy Church in Middletown.

The past two years have also seen Toni's faith transform lives at one of Ohio's maximum security prisons, the Lebanon Correctional Institute. There, working for the Solid Rock Bible College, Toni is a theology professor teaching inmates but more importantly helping to equip them spiritually to positively move forward with their lives. Last year that group of men chose to raise \$2500 toward the YMCA Teen Achievers Program because they didn't want to see another generation following in the path they had taken. "It's hard to put into words the blessing I receive every time I walk into the prison," said Toni.

The Emanuel Community Center Women of Over-the-Rhine Awards luncheon will be held at The Bell Event Center (444 Reading Road) on August 19. For more information, the public can contact 513-241-2563 ext. 20 or visit www.emanuelcenter.org.

