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Massachusetts Convention Center Authority and Levy Restaurants donate 120 Thanksgiving dinners to Friends of Children-Boston

November 22, 2010 – This morning, the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (MCCA) and its food and beverage partner, Levy Restaurants, donated 120 Thanksgiving dinners to Friends of Children-Boston (Friends-Boston).

James E. Rooney, executive director of the MCCA and Executive Chef Chris Pulling of Levy Restaurants presented the Thanksgiving dinners to Imari K. Paris Jeffries, executive director of Friends-Boston and several volunteers for the organization. The dinners, which include a turkey, stuffing, a vegetable, potatoes and pies, will be delivered to families of children involved in the Friends-Boston program.

Friends-Boston offers a comprehensive mentoring program to children living in at-risk communities. Children in the program are assigned a mentor in the first grade and continue to receive mentoring through their high school graduation. Assigned mentors work with the children an average of eight hours a week, year-round.

“The MCCA is committed to supporting and giving back to Boston communities year-round, so we are especially happy to help a wonderful program like Friends-Boston make Thanksgiving special for 120 families in our neighborhood,” said Rooney.

“It’s amazing what can happen when organizations, friends, and citizens come together share the spirit of the season and the brotherhood of our city,” said Jeffries. “Volunteerism and personal philanthropy are some of the founding pillars that flow through the life veins of our city. We are honored that the MCCA has partnered with us to ensure that Boston is and remains a city of communities and neighbors.”

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About the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (MCCA)

The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority owns and oversees the operations of the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center, the MassMutual Center in Springfield, MA and the Boston Common Parking Garage. The MCCA is currently in the midst of its Top 5 campaign to launch Boston into the top five convention destinations in North America. For more information, go to www.t5boston.com.

About Friends of Children-Boston

Friends of Children-Boston is a revolutionary mentoring organization committed to supporting, developing, and fostering high academic achievement and strong character development of children from at-risk communities to avoid cycles of poverty, abuse or violence and become successful members of society.