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## For Immediate Release

### **Don't Miss the Red Cross 2009 Humanitarian of the Year Award Luncheon** *Save the date and save your table*

**October 29, 2008** – The Humanitarian of the Year award, an honor bestowed upon those whose efforts to prevent suffering and protect life and health have improved lives in greater Columbus, will be presented to the third generation of Ingram family members during a luncheon program on April 22, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Columbus. Dr. Jeffrey Wadsworth, Executive VP of Laboratory Operations and future CEO of Battelle, is the honorary event chair. Sponsorship opportunities and individual reservations are available. Call 614.253.2740 ext. 2427 for more information.

The Humanitarian of the Year honors outstanding community volunteers and provides more than 600 business and community leaders with an entertaining and educational opportunity to become better acquainted with the work of the Red Cross. Proceeds from individual seats and table sales, as well as corporate sponsorships, help the Red Cross fulfill its mission.

The Ingram Family business, White Castle, has been part of the Columbus community since 1934 and today's family members exhibit the same sense of stewardship, compassion and caring they learned from their grandfather, father and mother before them. The family is committed to vital causes like education, literacy, homelessness, autism awareness and research and home meal delivery, to name a few. Many local non-profits receive dedicated support from the Ingram-White Castle Foundation, which has awarded \$40K in grants to support local Red Cross disaster readiness and response programs over the last three years. The third generation Ingram family members, Alice Ingram, Bill and Marci Ingram, Maryann and John Kelley and Nancy Sanford, have answered the call to philanthropy from generations before them, giving in our community in ways that have profound impact on people's lives.

In its 13<sup>th</sup> year, the Ingram family joins an outstanding list of individuals who, according to American Red Cross of Greater Columbus CEO Michael Carroll, "prove that you don't have to look beyond our own communities to find great humanitarians." Past honorees include:

1997	Dimon R. McFerson	2003	Alex Shumate
1998	John G. and Jeanne McCoy	2004	Teckie Shackelford
1999	Frank Wobst	2005	Robert J. Weiler, Sr.
2000	John H. McConnell	2006	Nancy Jeffrey
2001	Reverend Leon Troy, Sr.	2007	Ron and Ann Pizzuti
2002	Loann W. Crane	2008	Carl F. Kohrt

## **American Red Cross – Add One**

The American Red Cross of Greater Columbus is dedicated to helping make families and communities safer at home and around the world. Sustained by over 700 volunteers, the Red Cross provides assistance to 500 families each year after home fires and other disasters strike. Last year the organization trained and educated more than 113,000 area residents in vital lifesaving skills like first aid, CPR and how to prepare for emergencies. The Red Cross also sent more than 800 emergency messages between members of the military and their families. The community transportation program provides rides to medical appointments for seniors and individuals with disabilities, logging nearly 17,000 trips last year. All these programs and more are made possible by the donations of time and money from the greater Columbus community. Michael Carroll is the CEO of the American Red Cross of Greater Columbus and Mary Navarro serves as the board chair.

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