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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **First Step Recognizes 100 Volunteers for Over 3,000 Hours As Part of National Volunteer Month.**

SARASOTA, FL – April 21, 2010 – First Step of Sarasota, Inc., in recognition of April as National Volunteer Month, recently held its annual Volunteer Appreciation Reception at the Glasser/Schoenbaum Human Services Center.

Nearly 100 volunteers inspired and encouraged First Step participants, donating over 3,000 hours of annual service in a variety of volunteer positions, including serving on the Board of Directors and assisting with fund raising events, as well as in direct client contact roles including rocking babies in the Mothers & Infants program.

For more information about volunteer opportunities at First Step, contact Kelly French at 941-552-2065 or via email at [kfrench@fsos.org](mailto:kfrench@fsos.org). For more information about First Step, please visit their website at [www.fsos.org](http://www.fsos.org).

First Step of Sarasota has provided high quality, affordable substance abuse treatment and recovery programs on Florida's Gulf Coast for over 40 years. Last year, nearly 14,000 individuals were served through the agency's prevention and treatment programs.

*Photo Caption: First Step Volunteers (Back: Clare Donofrio, Shirley Zimmer, Arline Flourney, Evan Guido, Belinda Bencin, Alice Williams. Front: Emily Conklin, Shirley Knott, Pat Owen, Betty Wolsky, Toni Pruss, RoseMarie Seiler, Judy Swanson and Barbara Walker.)*

**To arrange an interview with First Step of Sarasota, please contact Tricia Lewis at Grapevine Communications at 941-351-0024 or via email [tlewis@grapeinc.com](mailto:tlewis@grapeinc.com). Grapevine Communications is an award-winning advertising, marketing, and public relations firm based in Sarasota and serving clients nationwide.**

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