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REV. DR. JOSEPH LOWERY, CIVIL RIGHTS ICON, TO VISIT CHICAGO

Lowery to help Ministerial Alliance honor area ministers for commitment to social justice

CHICAGO—Reverend Dr. Joseph Lowery, co-founder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will deliver the keynote address at a Chicago event honoring 30 Chicago-area ministers on September 22.

The event, “Called to Make a Difference,” is being hosted by the Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide (MAADD), a next generation civil rights organization devoted to bridging the digital divide between those who have ready access to technology and those who do not. Chicago-based MAADD’s nearly 15,000 members work on a national scale to promote policies that create economic equality in low-income minority communities.

“Rev. Dr. Lowery is the living example of what we are honoring with this event--commitment to social justice and standing up for a brighter future for our children,” said Rev. James L. Demus III, Senior Pastor of Park Manor Christian Church in Chicago and one of MAADD’s co-founders and directors. “Equal access to technology is the new frontier in civil rights because it holds the key to educational and professional empowerment in our communities.”

Rev. Dr. Joseph Lowery has dedicated his life to fighting racial injustice and promoting equality for all. Widely considered one of the deans of the civil rights movement, Lowery has worked through African-American churches to eliminate segregation in the U.S. and fight apartheid in South Africa.

“The mission of the civil rights movement has yet to be fully achieved,” said Rev. Demus. “MAADD is heeding the call of those, like Rev. Lowery, who have laid the groundwork for us. We will not rest until this work is done, and we hope many in the community will join us on September 22 to help forge ahead.”

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“Called to Make a Difference” – the first annual fundraising benefit for the Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide – will take place on Friday, September 22, 2006 at the Harambee House in Chicago. Tickets cost \$50 each and all proceeds will support MAADD’s efforts to eliminate the digital divide. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.maadd.org or call 866-297-0164.

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EDITOR’S NOTE: Rev. Joseph Lowery and Rev. James Demus III are available for interviews prior to the event. To make arrangements, please call 866-297-0164.