



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **First Step of Sarasota's Youth Outpatient Program Receives Grant from Eluned and Edward Russell Charitable Foundation.**

SARASOTA, FL – October 15, 2009 – First Step recently received a grant from the Eluned and Edward Russell Charitable Foundation to support its Youth Outpatient program, which serves adolescents ages 13-18 with a substance abuse problem.

Funds from the grant allow First Step to offer scholarships to teens who may not otherwise be able to pay for treatment. "With families' finances being stretched by the economy, they will go a long way with helping young people get the treatment they need," said P.J. Brooks, Vice President of First Step's Outpatient Services. He added, "we are grateful to the foundation for their generous support."

First Step's Youth Outpatient program opened in 2001 and provides individual, group and family counseling with adolescents. For more information on the Youth Outpatient program, please visit First Step's website [www.fsos.org](http://www.fsos.org).

First Step of Sarasota is the region's leading non-profit provider of substance abuse prevention and recovery programs serving Sarasota, Manatee and DeSoto Counties. Last year, First Step served over 8,500 through prevention programs and nearly 6,000 through detox, residential and outpatient programs.

To arrange an interview with First Step of Sarasota, contact Grapevine Communications at 941-351-0024 or 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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