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Contact: Steve Coates
(w) 860-761-7342
(c) 860-995-3542

For Immediate Release

ING Steps-Up to Help Urban Youth

Company Commits to be Presenting Sponsor for Our Piece of the Pie Fundraiser

Hartford, CT.....ING has committed \$15-thousand to become the “Presenting Sponsor” of Our Piece of the Pie’s ® (OPP’s ®) Sip ‘n’ Sail 2010 wine tasting fundraiser to benefit urban youth.

Sip ‘n’ Sail 2010 presented by ING, to be held on June 4, is a wine tasting cruise on the Connecticut River aboard the Lady Katharine’s “Mystique.” Local sommeliers will be on hand with samples of wine from around the world. All money raised will go to OPP programs and services.

“ING’s commitment to OPP will have an immediate impact on the young people we serve,” said Bob Rath OPP President/CEO. “Their support is an investment in the future of our economy as the agency works to ensure that young people have every opportunity in the classroom and in the workforce.”

OPP helps urban youth ages 14-24 earn economic independence through education and employment programs. OPP’s cornerstone program Pathways to Success matches each young person with a Youth Development Specialist (YDS) who serves as a mentor and helps the youth establish a concrete plan for the future. In Pathways, each youth has the long-term goals of a college degree or vocational certification and/or employment in that young person’s chosen field.

“We are proud to give our support to OPP and the young people of our state,” said Brian Comer ING President of Public Markets. “At ING, we believe in the importance of ensuring that young people have a better future through quality education, and in the empowerment of individuals

and families through financial and business literacy. OPP's mission exemplifies our beliefs," said Comer.

ING, a global financial institution with 110,000 employees in more than 40 countries, supports service projects worldwide in the areas of children and education, financial education and inclusion, and the environment.

In 2009, Sip 'n' Sail raised nearly \$60,000.

Individual tickets for this year's event are \$80 if purchased before May 1 (\$85 after May 1). Sponsorship packages are also available. For more information, please call Jo-Anne Leventhal at (860)761-7342 or on the web at OPP.org click on "Events."

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