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America's Promise Alliance Names Bristol One of 100 Best Communities for Young People

***In Partnership with Capital One, Competition Recognizes Outstanding,
Innovative Efforts That Benefit Children and Youth***

January 22, 2007: America's Promise – The Alliance for Youth is pleased to announce that Bristol is a winner of a national competition to identify the *100 Best Communities for Young People*. In partnership with Capital One, the *100 Best* competition honors communities – ranging from small towns to urban neighborhoods across America – for their commitment to provide healthy, safe and caring environments for young people. Hundreds of communities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands took part in the competition.

Bristol is one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People, in part, because it has taken an \$8.2 million Safe Schools-Healthy Students grant to create The Learning Center, a school serving students who are able to function more effectively in an untraditional middle or high school setting. Partnerships between the school system, Frontier Health Counseling Center, the Bristol Tennessee Police Department, the Boys and Girls Club of Bristol, the Juvenile Justice Court system and the Drug-Free Communities Coalition have also been formed to provide academic, emotional and social support for children in the community. Bristol's Promise identified the community's need for parenting education and offers Guiding Good Choices and Supporting School Success to help families give their children what they need to succeed. After school program providers like the Boys & Girls Club, YWCA, YMCA and Girls Inc. are using research data and collaborations to provide and fund programs providing Safe Places and Structured Activities during non-school hours.

“Nothing is more important than seeing that our children and youth have the resources and support systems they need to thrive and succeed,” said America's Promise Founding Chairman General Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.). “When a community provides all that its young people need to be healthy and secure, they deserve to be honored and showcased as an outstanding example of what it takes to successfully nurture this nation's young people.”

A complete list of winners can be found at www.americaspromise.org. *100 Best Communities for Young People* was first launched in 2005 by General Powell in partnership with Capital One Financial Corporation. Other members of America's Promise Alliance — including United Way of America, U.S. Conference of Mayors, Big Brothers Big Sisters, National Association of Counties and the American Association of School Administrators and many others — took leading roles in encouraging communities to compete in the *100 Best* competition.

“We are so pleased and excited to receive this national recognition from America's Promise 100 Best Communities for Young People”, said Margaret Feierabend, President, Bristol's Promise: Youth Networking Alliance. “Bristol Tennessee has accomplished so much since embarking upon the Communities That Care strategic planning process in 2004-2005. Together with Bristol Virginia we are assessing the needs of our children and young people and collaborating as a community—public, private, nonprofit, faith, education & with our young people to meet those needs. This recognition will help us in our journey as we strive to provide our community's children and youth striving to deliver the 5 Promises with the best opportunities possible. “

The 2007 *100 Best Communities for Young People* competition opened in September 2006. Bristol and the other winners applied for the honor and were chosen by a distinguished selection panel of civic, business and nonprofit leaders, including United Way of America President Brian Gallagher, U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Tom Donohue, NBC News Washington Bureau Chief and Moderator of *Meet the Press* Tim Russert, CEOs for Cities' President and CEO Carol Coleta, and former Denver mayor Wellington Webb.

The selection panel evaluated *100 Best* entries that required detailed information about each community's efforts to fulfill the Five Promises – the fundamental resources our children and youth need to succeed: caring adults who are actively involved in their lives; safe places in which to learn and grow; a healthy start toward adulthood; an effective education that builds marketable skills; and opportunities to help others.

"We held this competition to appeal to America's competitive spirit to encourage communities to become great places to grow up." said Marguerite W. Kondracke, President and CEO of America's Promise – The Alliance for Youth. "Our winners' outstanding efforts to deliver the Five Promises are shining examples of what it means to keep America's Promise for our young people."

"Capital One believes that every family should have the opportunity to provide for their children in ways that ensure future success," said Capital One President of Global Financial Services and America's Promise board member Larry Klane, a member of the 2007 selection panel. "Through the *100 Best* competition, we can recognize communities that foster the type of environment where children and families have opportunities and resources to realize their potential."

For more details about the *100 Best* competition and the winners, please visit

www.americaspromise.org. For more information about our local programming, visit

www.bristolspromise.org. To learn more about the Bristol Tennessee City School System's Safe Schools Healthy Students project FINE, visit www.btcs.org

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About America's Promise

Founded by retired General Colin L. Powell, the America's Promise Alliance is the nation's largest private-public partnership committed to ensuring that every child receives the five fundamental resources – the Five Promises - essential for success: caring adults, safe places, a healthy start, an effective education and opportunities to help others.

Alma J. Powell currently serves as chair. Marguerite W. Kondracke serves as president and chief executive officer. Among the founding partners are the Corporation for National and Community Service, Points of Light Foundation, The United Way of America, Communities In Schools and MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership.

America's Promise grew out of the Presidents' Summit for America's Future in 1997, where Presidents Bush, Carter, Clinton and Ford, with Nancy Reagan representing President Reagan, challenged the country to make children and youth a national priority. President George W. Bush affirmed his commitment in 2001.

About Capital One

Headquartered in McLean, Virginia, Capital One Financial Corporation (www.capitalone.com) is a financial holding company, with more than 324 locations in Texas and Louisiana. Its principal subsidiaries, Capital One Bank, Capital One, F.S.B., Capital One Auto Finance, Inc., and Capital One, N.A., offer a broad spectrum of financial products and services to consumers, small businesses and commercial clients. Capital One's subsidiaries collectively had \$47.2 billion in deposits and \$108.4 billion in managed loans outstanding as of June 30, 2006. Capital One, a Fortune 500 company, trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "COF" and is included in the S&P 500 index.

About Bristol's Promise: Youth Networking Alliance

Bristol's Promise is a nonprofit dedicated to promote community networking and collaboration for the benefit of children and youth in the Bristol TN/VA area, bringing together all segments of the community to work together. Bristol's Promise wants to assure that assessment, planning and evaluation processes are conducted to obtain data and information needed to identify and meet the needs of children and youth in our community. Evidence based programs and best practices are advocated. The 5 Promises from America's Promise provide a framework for strengthening our children and youth, providing what is needed to grow successful, caring adults. Begun in 1999, Bristol's Promise became a Community of Promise in 2001, was instrumental in the Communities That Care process in 2004-05, and incorporated into a charitable nonprofit in 2006.

Contacts:

Bristol's Promise: President, Margaret Feierabend, Vice President, Tom Hanlon, Treasurer, Scot Nelms, Secretary, Alice McCaffrey

Education: Vonda Stevens, Dawn Werner, Project FINE, Elizabeth Graham, King College

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Public: Margaret Feierabend, Bristol TN City Council, Mary Butler, City of Bristol TN Community Development & Planning

Business: Sara Worley, CTMS

Faith Community: Reverend Tom Quickel, Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

Youth: Rachel Bush, THS, Reid Witcher, THS