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Contact: Melissa L. Langley
Phone: 816.283.3456
email: mlangley@tb-engr.com

Taliaferro & Browne: Partnering for KC Core Neighborhoods

(*Kansas City, MO*) Having focused much of their attention over the last 40 years on building and renovating Kansas City's urban infrastructure, it's no surprise that Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. (T&B) would look to the City's downtown core for a place to call home. Later this year, T&B will move into their new headquarters at 1020 East 8th Street, joining neighbors such as Fogel Anderson, A. Zahner Sheet Metal, and Mark One in actively revitalizing this historic neighborhood.

T&B's investment in their new neighborhood has already begun. Not only is the firm an active participant in the Paseo West Neighborhood Association as well as the Downtown Council, T&B recently began an ongoing affiliation with **reStart, Inc.** — an interfaith ministry for homeless individuals and families. This commitment has a special meaning for Leonard Graham, President of T&B. "We are especially committed to becoming a full partner with this community and doing our part to mentor area young people to become full participants in our city's future."

T&B's support for reStart programs will encompass much more than just monetary donations. The firm is looking at ways to support outreach programs with staff expertise and involvement. Possible support services could include providing homework help for the youth services programs, job shadowing opportunities, and promotional events. For Evelyn Craig, Director of reStart, Inc., this affiliation couldn't come at a better time. "Thanks to firms like Taliaferro & Browne, we were able to end 2008 with a modest cash surplus – a first in our 10-year history. Beyond that, this kind of partnership with a neighbor is always special. T&B's volunteer and financial support is an unbeatable combination!"

Serving downtown Kansas City since 1981, **reStart, Inc.** offers shelter and supportive services to homeless men, women, youth, and families. reStart programs help people move toward independence and self-sufficiency by providing overnight and family emergency shelters, transitional living, and permanent supportive housing. In addition, reStart provides a homeless services center as well as youth, employment, health, and educational services. The organization provides an annual average of 80,000 bed nights of emergency and transitional shelter to approximately 6,000 homeless guests (men, women, and families).

Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. is a Kansas City-based professional services firm specializing in infrastructure improvement. In business since 1968, the firm provides first-rate civil engineering, structural engineering, landscape architecture, and land surveying for public works, transit/transportation, site development, and commercial land development projects. Currently, the firm occupies offices in Kansas City, Kansas and on the 10th floor of the Scarritt Building at 818 Grand. T&B's new location, 1020 East 8th Street, will ultimately accommodate all departments under one roof to ensure optimum project synergy and efficiency as well as much-needed room for expansion.

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