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FOR: The Douglas Center

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The Douglas Center “Art From The Heart” Creations Makes Its Skokie Debut at the Festival of Cultures

Skokie, IL — The Douglas Center **“Art From The Heart” Creations** celebrated its Skokie debut at the 21st Annual Skokie Festival of Cultures on May 21st and 22nd with great success. The art pieces displayed at the Festival of Cultures included mosaic wall hangings and tabletop pieces, mosaic decorative mirrors and decorative plates. **“Art From The Heart” Creations** is a program participant-based business launched by The Douglas Center. This program provides participants with “hands-on” experience in the creation, production and selling of their own products. The entire product line includes mosaic wall art and mirrors, decorative plates, jewelry and greeting cards. This venture provides program participants living with developmental and physical disabilities the opportunity for the development and training of marketable skills needed for their business while producing products for sale. A portion of the proceeds of these art creations goes directly to the program participant that created it.

The Douglas Center provides day programs for individuals with severe developmental and physical disabilities. The Douglas Center Work Center offers work programs that include light manufacturing, sewing, packaging, assembly, shrink-wrapping, labeling, heat sealing, fulfillment services, etc. by partnering with local manufacturers on work contracts/projects. The center offers pre-vocational training as well as developmental rehabilitation for adults of all ages. The Douglas Center opened its doors in 1999. Today, they provide a home away from home for 120 hard working and dedicated individuals. The center’s *clinical services, training programs, employment opportunities and Senior’s program* enhance the lives of their clients and assist them in reaching their maximum potential.

“We are honored and deeply grateful for the reception and support that **“Art From The Heart” Creations** received from those attending the festival”, stated Rifath Khan, Executive Director. “This program enables our participants to earn income from the sale of their art, attain a sense of accomplishment, self-esteem and assistance in achieving independence in life. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of those living with disabilities.”

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