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Leadership Austin and Seton Family of Hospitals Announce Partnership

AUSTIN, TX- Leadership Austin and Seton Family of Hospitals are pleased to announce a partnership with the goal of inspiring and preparing community leaders for Central Texas. Leadership Austin and Seton Family of Hospitals will collaborate in a number of ways including Seton Family of Hospitals providing presenting program support to the 2008-2009 Leadership Austin Essential Class. For the first time in the program's 29-year history, the Leadership Austin Essential Class will be offered in cooperation with a strategic partner.

“Leadership Austin and Seton Family of Hospitals have a rich tradition of involvement. Employees of Seton Family of Hospitals have participated in our programming each year since 1979. Our program alumni have utilized their newly developed leadership skills to create innovative solutions to complex community issues, including healthcare,” said Heather McKissick, Leadership Austin President/CEO. “Through this partnership, we will ensure that community members have the passion and the skills they need to address all issues that face our community..”

Each year, 55 people representing the diversity of Central Texas are selected to participate in the Leadership Austin Essential Class. The curriculum focuses on regional issues, leadership skills, and building strong networks among Essential Class members and regional leaders to encourage innovative, collaborative solutions to the region's challenges. Over the last three decades, many of Central Texas' most visible leaders, as well as those who lead behind the scenes, have participated in the Leadership Austin Essential Class and continue their good work as powerful agents for change to make Central Texas better for all who live here.

“Both Seton Family of Hospitals and Leadership Austin strive to work in an inclusive, respectful way to find creative solutions to complex problems. We are pleased to support Leadership Austin who is making measurable progress in preparing civic leaders representing the diversity of our region to think strategically and work collaboratively. These leaders create innovative solutions to the challenging issues we face not only in healthcare, but all areas that affect quality of life for our citizens,” said Greg Hartman, Senior Vice President, Marketing and Planning.

Leadership Austin is currently accepting applications for the 2008-09 Essential Class. Application information may be found at www.leadershipaustin.org.

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About Leadership Austin

Leadership Austin fosters a non-partisan environment where people of diverse backgrounds and experience come together to learn about civic leadership, engage in meaningful dialogue about important public issues, and collaborate to make a difference in Central Texas. Leadership Austin offers programming that serves the broad continuum of leadership experience and interests at every stage in an individual's leadership career. Those who have trained with Leadership Austin are influencing the community in measurable ways and improving the quality of life in our region. For more information go to www.leadershipaustin.org or call 512.499.0435.

About Seton Family of Hospitals

The Seton Family of Hospitals is the leading provider of healthcare services in Central Texas, serving an 11-county population of 1.7 million. The network includes five urban acute care hospitals, two rural hospitals, a mental health hospital, several strategically located health facilities that provide medical care for well patients and three primary care clinics for the uninsured. Four out of every ten overnight patients in the region receive their care at a Seton facility. Seton is a member of Ascension Health, the largest not-for-profit health network with more than 100,000 employees in 20 states and the District of Columbia.