

Samaritan Counseling Center's 20th Anniversary Celebration scheduled at Lincoln Station's Great Hall in the Haymarket

The Samaritan Counseling Center will celebrate its 20th anniversary on Friday, May 16, at the Lincoln Station's Great Hall in the Haymarket. The evening will include a reception, silent and live auctions, dinner and "Spirit of the Samaritan" awards. May is designated as National Mental Health Month to raise awareness about the importance of mental wellness for all.

The "Spirit of the Samaritan" award will be presented annually to individuals, community organizations and businesses exemplifying the spirit of the Good Samaritan through responding to the needs of others with hope, healing and a helping hand. The 2008 "Spirit of the Samaritan" award honorees will be the Samaritan Counseling Center's founding board members, Clinic With a Heart and Ameritas.

The Samaritan Counseling Center in Lincoln is a nationally accredited, non-profit organization that provides professional counseling programs which integrate an individual's values and beliefs in the process of emotional, spiritual and physical healing. Open to all, the center is committed to improving the lives and relationships of individuals, couples and families in Lincoln and surrounding communities.

St. Mark's United Methodist and Westminster Presbyterian Church teamed up more than 20 years ago to found the Samaritan Counseling Center. Several members of the church put their time, talent, energy and experience into serving on the Samaritan Center board of directors. Several members of St. Mark's and other Methodist churches serve on the board today.

In addition, Samaritan Counseling Center has covenant relationships with several United Methodist Churches including Lincoln Aldersgate, Lincoln Christ UMC, Milford UMC, Prairie Home UMC, Lincoln South Gate UMC, Lincoln St. Luke's UMC, Lincoln St. Mark's UMC, Lincoln Trinity UMC and Ceresco UMC.

For more information about the Samaritan Counseling Center and the 20th anniversary celebration, visit www.SamaritanCenter.com or call the center at 483-5117.