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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**LITTLE CITY TO ANNOUNCE ALEC K. GIANARAS AWARD**

**New Honor to Pay Tribute to Longtime Board President and Greek Community Leader**

**Palatine, IL, Jan. 30, 2009** – Little City Foundation announced today that it will create a new annual award in honor of the legend of Alec K. Gianaras, one of the organization’s beloved and longtime leaders who passed away in December.

The announcement of the new award will be made during Little City’s “Night on the Red Carpet” Oscar party event on Feb. 22. The award will be presented for the first time at Little City’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Dinner in November.

As a tribute to Mr. Gianaras’ memory, who was also a strong supporter of the Greek community, a special proclamation will be presented to Alex Gianaras, the son of Mr. Gianaras, during the Night on the Red Carpet event, which serves as a fundraiser for Little City.

Mr. Gianaras, 96, passed away Dec. 30, 2008, after a short illness. He joined the Little City Foundation Board of Directors in 1973 and served for 28 years on the Board. During his tenure, Mr. Gianaras earned the distinction of being the longest-serving Board President, leading the Board for 20 years starting in 1974.

**About Little City**

Established in 1959, Little City Foundation is committed to developing innovative and personalized programs to fully assist and empower people with disabilities in all stages of life. Little City offers a variety of residential options for children and adults, as well as vocational and employment opportunities. Programs and services include a special needs foster care and adoption program; in-home support to families raising a child with developmental disabilities; a full complement of recreational activities, including Special Olympics competition; and an award-winning Center for the Arts program that features visual, performance, media and fabric arts. The organization has a 56-acre campus in Palatine and offices in Chicago.