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DRAFT RELEASE

**DUANE READE PARTNERS WITH THE SALVATION ARMY TO HELP FELLOW
NEW YORKERS IN NEED**

NEW YORK, NY, December 5, 2006 – Duane Reade, the leading drug store chain in metropolitan New York, and The Salvation Army in Greater New York, a non-profit organization dedicated to serving New Yorkers in need, today announced the start of their “Sharing is Caring Holiday Promotion,” an initiative which will raise money for donations of Duane Reade products to The Salvation Army. This holiday season, the retailer’s 251 stores will invite it’s customers to bring assistance to the region’s less fortunate residents.

As part of this year's program, which will run from Monday, December 4 through Monday, December 25th, Duane Reade customers are encouraged to purchase \$10 paper “kettles” resembling The Salvation Army’s red kettle — a symbol of holiday charity that has been an American tradition since 1891. Each \$10 kettle purchase will buy at least \$12 worth of Duane Reade health care products and everyday necessities that will be donated to The Salvation Army. The Army will distribute the gifts amongst the 600,000 underprivileged men, women and children the charity serves throughout the New York metropolitan area and surrounding counties . As recognition for their contribution, customers can sign the kettles that will then be displayed in Duane Reade stores.

On any given night in America, anywhere from 700,000 to 2 million people are homeless, according to estimates of the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty. Statistics from the NYC Department of Homeless Services, show that every night about 35,000 New Yorkers sleep in shelters or on the streets. The “Sharing is Caring Holiday Promotion” demonstrates Duane Reade and New York area residents’ commitment to helping those in need improve their quality of life during this special time of year.

“Events like the ‘Sharing is Caring Holiday Promotion’ demonstrate the strong sense of community support and willingness of New Yorkers to help their fellow New Yorkers in need,” said Rick Dreiling, CEO and president of Duane Reade. “We are proud to participate in The Salvation Army’s goal of helping those in need this holiday season. Duane Reade recognizes the importance of this humanitarian effort and is committed to raising money to support this worthy cause.”

“The Salvation Army is pleased that Duane Reade has chosen to participate in our annual Christmas Campaign to help less fortunate New Yorkers,” said Major Guy Klemanski , Divisional Commander of The Salvation Army in Greater New York. “Every year we work to support 600,000 New Yorkers in need, and we greatly appreciate and value the help of companies like Duane Reade that work with us to make this great effort possible.”

About Duane Reade

Founded in 1960, Duane Reade is the largest drug store chain in the metropolitan New York City area, offering a wide variety of prescription and over-the-counter drugs, health and beauty care items, cosmetics, greeting cards, photo supplies and photofinishing. As of September 30, 2006, the Company operated 251 stores.

About The Salvation Army in Greater New York

The Salvation Army in Greater New York has been serving the New York community for more than 125 years. Through a broad array of programs that range from Emergency Disaster Services--which provides support for the New York Fire Department and New York Fire Department in crisis situations--to performance arts camps, The Army strives to meet the diverse needs of New Yorkers. Last year alone, The Salvation Army in Greater New York provided 2.9 million meals to the hungry and over 890,000 nights of lodging to the homeless. The Salvation Army is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church. For more information, go to <http://www.salvationarmy-newyork.org>

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