



BARNUM
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GROUP

An office of MetLife

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Barnum Financial Group Helps Make Dreams Come True

Shelton, Connecticut, July 30, 2007 – Barnum Financial Group, an office of MetLife®, announced today that Paul Blanco, managing director, and his family helped the Brown Family, ABC’s Extreme Makeover beneficiaries, achieve their American Dream by paying the remainder of their mortgage. Mrs. Brown worked hard to become a homeowner for her family of four. But a flood and fire destroyed the house one year ago and shattered her dream.

“Achieving the American Dream is part of our philanthropic goals, and what better way to accomplish this than by helping the Brown family out of debt, move their lives forward and get their life back in order,” said Blanco. “I am thrilled to be part of this community effort and look forward to hearing more about the family as their new journey begins.”

“I wish to thank Extreme Makeover for selecting this most deserving family from Bridgeport, CT, one of America’s greatest cities, and to all of the volunteers that helped make this American Dream possible,” added Blanco.

Bob Bonvini, a financial services representative with Barnum Financial Group, arranged for the firm’s participation. In addition to the contribution by Paul Blanco and his family, 30 employees from the firm volunteered.

As a young boy growing up in Brooklyn, N.Y., Blanco never thought that he would be living the American Dream leading MetLife’s #1 firm in the U.S. for three consecutive years. In just 12 years, the firm grew from nine people to nearly 400. The office was also voted by *Hartford Business Journal* as the #1 Best Place to Work in 2006.

Barnum Financial Group started in Bridgeport, CT in 1950. Since moving to Shelton in 1995, the firm has vowed to keep connected to and support the Bridgeport community. Giving back is a common theme at Barnum Financial Group, so much so that the firm’s goal is to have 100 percent of employees volunteering throughout Connecticut. Blanco personally encourages employees to get involved with charitable giving and also encourages them to seek support from the firm.

* Barnum Financial Group, an office of MetLife and the #1 MetLife office, is a comprehensive financial services firm dedicated to helping clients improve their long-term financial success and reduce debt in order to pursue their lifetime financial goals and dreams. The firm offers a full line of insurance products, as well as diverse financial experience, including college funding, retirement, estate planning, special needs children, business strategies to employee benefits.

* MetLife, a subsidiary of MetLife, Inc. (NYSE: MET) is a leading provider of insurance and other financial services to millions of individual and institutional customers throughout the United States. Through its subsidiaries and affiliates, MetLife, Inc. offers life insurance, annuities, automobile and homeowner’s insurance and retail banking services to individuals, as well as group insurance, reinsurance and retirement and savings products and services to corporations and other institutions. Outside the U.S., the MetLife companies have direct insurance operations in Asia Pacific, Latin America and Europe. For more information, please visit www.metlife.com.

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