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# Press Release

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## **Heartspring brings international ties to Kansas**

Wichita, Kan. – Heartspring's founder Dr. Martin F. Palmer had a vision of creating an organization to help children with special needs that would reach worldwide. Today his vision is being realized through programs like Heartspring World Reach.

Kansans had the opportunity to share their views and learn more about the world of international business opportunities at the second annual Global Challenges Conference April 6-8, 2006 at Friends University in Wichita, Kansas.

Presenting on behalf of Heartspring was Mrs. Emily Singleton. Her topic, Non-profit Global Opportunities: Paradigm Shift – Heartspring and World Reach, recognized Heartspring as changing the face of social service organizations and international relationships. Heartspring's World Reach program was initiated in 1995 and as a result, Heartspring has international relationships with organizations in China, Croatia,

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Romania and Malawi, providing technical assistance, training, resources and supplies to children with special needs.

“Heartspring, in its international expansion, has truly begun the truest form of a paradigm shift. Heartspring is changing the face of social services organizations and international relationships. It truly is redefining social services relationships in the global community. Dr. Martin Palmer and Dr. Gary Singleton (Heartspring CEO/President) are prime examples of social entrepreneurs. Social entrepreneurs not only invite change but use the energy it creates to drive positive outcomes. Social entrepreneurs are change agents, innovators, and risk-takers,” said Mrs. Singleton.

*For more than 70 years, Heartspring has pioneered many breakthroughs for individuals with special needs. Today, Heartspring serves children with varying degrees of disabilities including autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, mental retardation and other developmental disabilities. Our expertise at Heartspring School is recognizing the special needs of children as individuals, then guiding them to their greatest potential in all aspects of their life. Through the years, we've used that expertise to help children through Heartspring Pediatric Services and individuals of all ages through the Heartspring Hearing Center. For more information please call Katie Bishop at 316-634-8821 or email at [kbishop@heartspring.org](mailto:kbishop@heartspring.org)*

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