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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**ORTHOCAROLINA VOLUNTEERS GIVE BACK TO LOCAL HOMELESS
BEFORE GIVING THANKS**

Local Orthopedic Foot and Ankle Institute to Provide Free Foot Screenings and Footwear

CHARLOTTE, N.C., Nov. 24, 2009 – OrthoCarolina, the region’s leading orthopedic practice, today will provide free foot screenings and footwear to approximately 200 homeless men served by the Men’s Shelter of Charlotte, Statesville Avenue Campus (formerly the Emergency Winter Shelter).

It’s the fourth time OrthoCarolina has participated in the nationwide effort known as Our Hearts to Your Soles, and this year comes at a time when the need for assistance in the Charlotte community has never been greater.

“The entire OrthoCarolina Foot & Ankle Institute team is really humbled to have the opportunity to donate our expertise to benefit less fortunate members of our community,” said Dr. Bruce Cohen, foot and ankle specialist. “At OrthoCarolina, we’re committed to giving back to the communities where we live and work. Our continued participation in Our Hearts to Your Soles is just one example of how we give back to the Charlotte community.”

Since the first Charlotte event in March 2007, surgeons from OrthoCarolina’s Foot & Ankle Institute have served more than 650 homeless men from the Emergency Winter Shelter (now the Men’s Shelter of Charlotte, Statesville Avenue Campus).

“We’re so grateful for OrthoCarolina’s continued pledge to serve those in their community,” said John White, manager of the Statesville Avenue Campus shelter. “By utilizing their skills to assist our residents, the foot and ankle team is helping people who may not have found aid anywhere else.”

Our Hearts to Your Soles was founded in 2004 by Matt Conti, the son of Dr. Steve Conti, a foot and ankle specialist practicing in Pittsburgh. Today, doctors and approximately 500 volunteers in more than 40 cities nationwide will participate in simultaneous free foot screenings and provide 8,000 pairs of donated footwear with a value close to \$600,000.

Our Hearts to Your Soles provides medical attention and shoes to the less fortunate to help prevent the many problems that result from improper foot care and footwear.

About OrthoCarolina

As one of the nation’s leading orthopedic practices with offices across the Charlotte region, OrthoCarolina is your destination for comprehensive orthopedic care. Leveraging our physicians’ expertise in the areas of foot, ankle, hand, hip, knee, shoulder, elbow, spine, sports medicine and pediatrics and providing services that include physical therapy, MRI and post-surgical support, we can offer you a continuum of care unmatched in the region.

OrthoCarolina. You. Improved.

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