

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 31, 2008

For more information, contact:

Miriam Cintrón, 312.949.5635, mcintron@kidshopeunited.org

Children's Resource Network to oversee Community Mental Health Center

MIAMI, Fla.— The South Dade Children's Resource Network now oversees Kids Hope United's Community Mental Health Center, allowing the Network to better respond to the mental and behavioral health needs of children and families in the South Dade community.

"The center will help the Network toward its goal of supporting children and families before a situation becomes aggravated—ultimately preventing abuse and neglect from ever occurring, and keeping children and families out of the child welfare system," said Dr. Ted Greer, the Network's senior vice president.

"This partnership will allow our mental health center to offer comprehensive, systemic strength-based mental health services to all children and families served through the Network, ensuring that families develop a strong and healthy foundation to fulfill their potential," said Dr. Bettina Toscano, director of the mental health division.

Through the Network, the Community Mental Health Center will continue to offer multi-systemic, culturally sensitive services, including:

- Play therapy
- Therapeutic supervised visitation
- Co-parenting
- Nurturing Parenting® classes
- Active Parenting® classes
- Anger management classes
- Individual, family and child/adolescent therapy
- Home-based counseling
- Psychiatric evaluations
- Medication management
- Targeted Case Management (TCM)
- Mental health assessments for adults and children/adolescents
- Infant mental health services

The South Dade Children's Resource Network is a service partnership founded by Kids Hope United that gives vulnerable families a single point of access to appropriate, effective, coordinated services. Services are available to qualifying families on a voluntary basis in the communities of Cutler Bay, Goulds, Naranja, Perrine and Richmond Heights. Kids Hope United serves as the lead and fiscal agent for the grant.

Funded by The Children's Trust, the Network offers community-based support and service navigation through an assigned Family Support Specialist who can assist with issues such as housing/homelessness, mental health, substance abuse, child care and emergency assistance funds.

The Network accepts self-referrals and referrals from the community through the Network Help Desk at 786.712.0492. Referrals for mental health services should be directed to 786.712.0602.

###

The South Dade Children's Resource Network is funded by The Children's Trust. The Trust is a dedicated source of revenue established by voter referendum to improve the lives of children and families in Miami-Dade County.

