

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE RECEIVES \$2.6 MILLION TO LAUNCH NEW TRAINING AND COACHING CENTER

Rochester, NY – Children's Institute is pleased to announce the launch of a new community-wide resource that aims to transform the environments where children ages 0-8 grow, learn, and play. Multi-year funding for this center will come from the Greater Rochester Health Foundation (GRHF) as part of their new Healthy Futures strategy. Since 2006, GRHF has focused on improving the health of people in the greater Rochester community by funding a variety of innovative programs. The *Training and Coaching Center for Healthy Futures* is a partnership of 13 community organizations*, led by Children's Institute, that aims to address the inadequate system of prevention and care that has led to a growing mental health crisis among children and adolescents. To that end, the center will equip professionals who work with children across settings with tools and strategies to support whole child health, including social and emotional learning, physical and mental health, and fitness and nutrition.

In the first year the Training and Coaching Center will work with a small cohort of schools, early education sites, and afterschool programs to assess their current practices related to whole child health, identify goals for improvement, and provide coaching, consultation, and training to achieve those goals. Over time, the center will grow to serve additional child-serving organizations across the 9-county region served by GRHF. The long-term goal of the Center is to develop ongoing coaching and training relationships with organizations and the families they serve to ensure the success of every child.

Children's Institute will serve as the lead agency providing overall management, staffing, and coordination with community partners and GRHF. Each partner agency was selected based on their content expertise and history in effectively training educators and serving children and families in the region.

* Partner organizations include Action for a Better Community - Head Start, Greater Rochester After-School Alliance, Ibero-American Action League, Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES, Mt. Hope Family Center, Rochester Childfirst Network, RIT Center for Quality and Applied Statistics, Society for the Protection and Care of Children, St. John Fisher College - Ralph C. Wilson School of Education, St. John Fisher College - Wegmans School of Nursing, United Way of Greater Rochester, URMC - Department of Pediatrics, URMC - Department of Psychiatry

Children's Institute is a national not-for-profit organization based in Rochester, NY that works to strengthen children's social and emotional health. We are affiliated with the University of Rochester and have served the community for over 60 years.

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