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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Annual Come Play! Gala Raises Funds for the Child Guidance Center

GREENWICH, CT/May 24, 2011 – Over two hundred and fifty guests gathered together at Roger Sherman Baldwin Park in Greenwich on April 30, 2011 to support the Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut’s (CGC) annual themed benefit gala. ***Come Play!...At the Beach*** was a great success, raising over \$300,000 to support professional mental health services for local children, adolescents and their families. Challenged by an intensifying demand for services, CGC relies on the support of the community to assure that when a child is struggling, help is not delayed.

The gala’s theme is inspired by the importance of play in a child’s life. This year’s theme focused on the vibrant sights and sounds of youthful, carefree play at the beach. However, for many children, debilitating psychiatric conditions such as depression and anxiety, traumatic life events, and destructive behavior cast a shadow on childhood and threaten their future. The fifth successful “***Come Play!***” gala, CGC is proud to partner with so many local corporations, foundations, and individuals that provide crucial funding enabling CGC to provide essential mental health services to children and families in our community who desperately need them.

Come Play!...At the Beach sponsors included Connecticut Distributors Inc., Cummings and Lockwood LLC, GE, Paul Hastings Janofsky & Walker LLP, The Glen Gate Company, Peoples United Bank, Pitney Bowes, Rapid Press, Stamford Hospital, Thomson Reuters, and UBS. All event proceeds benefit CGC’s mental health programs and services for children, adolescents and their families in Stamford, Greenwich, Darien and New Canaan.

The Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut (CGC) is a non-profit mental health resource, serving children and teenagers in Stamford, Greenwich, Darien and New Canaan, both self referred and through referrals from schools, physicians, courts, and public and private human service agencies. CGC's clinical staff of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and marriage and family therapists work with more than 2,000 children annually, providing culturally competent and sensitive care to families representative of the rich ethnic mix of communities CGC serves. Preventative services are provided to youngsters, parents, and professionals through community education and consultation programs. Incorporated in 1954, CGC is supported by the Connecticut Department of Children & Families, Connecticut Office of Victim Crime Services, United Way and community foundations in Darien and New Canaan. CGC is a beneficiary of generous individual, foundation, and corporate contributions. www.childguidancect.org

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Photos (all photos courtesy of Josh Sarner):

CGC_1: Ric Cherwin, Master of Ceremonies and Auctioneer.

CGC_2: Board of Directors member Laura Weintraub Beck and Jennifer Coffey.

CGC_3: Board of Directors member Jim Colica and CGC Clinician Mary Joggerst.

CGC_4: Ellen and Eddy Melton, Sue and Board of Directors member Tim Collier,
Regina and Dan Rizzuto.

CGC_5: Margaret Deluca and Maja Dubois.

CGC_6: Daniel and Meagan Johnson.

CGC_7: Come Play! Committee member Margaret O'Neal and Sadhna Venkat.

CGC_8: Board of Directors member Dr. Lisa Rooney and husband Robert Rooney.

CGC_9: Sherry Perlstein, CGC Executive Director, and Board of Directors member Kenda
McDonnell.

CGC_10: Dr. Salam Soliman, CGC Intake Administrator and Lauren Shapiro,
CGC Psychology Intern.

CGC_11: Board of Directors member Dr. Amy Zabin and husband Dr. Steve Zabin.