

**CGC ANNOUNCES EXPANSION PLAN, LAUNCHES PHASE II OF CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

*Event Also Honors State Rep. Christel Truglia for Efforts to “Restore Childhood”*

STAMFORD, CT/June 8, 2007 – Against the backdrop of the opening of its second Stamford office, the Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut (CGC) unveiled its plan for expansion at an open house on June 7 at the organization’s new 196 Greyrock Place location. CGC Executive Director Sherry Perlstein and Board Chair John Raffaeli highlighted the plans and officially launched the second (public) phase of the organization’s capital campaign. The event also included a special presentation to State Representative Christel Truglia for her strong support of children’s mental health services and her dedication to the CGC.

“We know the value of early identification and intervention. With the expansion into a second Stamford facility, we are able to help more children and shorten the amount of time that families wait to receive non-emergency treatment services,” said Perlstein. “As the need for mental health services has grown, we have increased staff and the array of programs and services we provide. But, additional facilities are required to accommodate this growth. When we do not have sufficient capacity and children must wait, we risk that problems will intensify and children will require more extensive services.”

Raffaeli announced the successful completion of Phase I of the organization’s capital campaign, officially launching the public phase of fundraising in support of the expansion.

“We are proud to have already secured \$2 million in gifts from CGC board members, staff and close friends of the agency, and now we will ask for support from the community-at large,” said Raffaeli. “These funds will help to support the cost of our expansion. This includes costs associated with the new Greyrock office, which houses our Emergency Mobile Crisis, Community Policing Partnership, and Interagency Sexual Abuse Response Team programs. Funds will also enable us to improve the West Broad Street facility, expand our services in Greenwich, Darien and New Canaan, and upgrade our computer network and telecommunication system. The latter will link the center’s sites to streamline communications and access to vital clinical information, which are central to effective treatment and analysis of treatment outcomes and patient satisfaction.”

In celebrating the opening of the Greyrock site, the CGC paid special tribute to State

Representative Christel Truglia, presenting her with an award in gratitude for all she has done to “restore childhood.” The CGC recognized Truglia’s legislative leadership as co-chair of the select committee on children, highlighting her advocacy on behalf of children with mental health problems. The organization thanked her for spearheading legislation, supported by the entire Stamford, Greenwich, Darien and New Canaan delegations, for state bonding funds to offset some of the costs of the CGC’s Greyrock facility expansion.

In presenting the award, Perlstein remarked, “At the core of our work at the Child Guidance Center is a mix of compassion and professionalism. In public life no one better exemplifies this integration of heart and mind than Christel Truglia.”

The Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut 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, courts, human services agencies, and physicians. The CGC’s clinical staff of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and marriage and family therapists work with more than 2,000 area 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 public education and consultation programs. Incorporated in 1954, the CGC is supported by the Connecticut Department of Children & Families, Connecticut Office of Victim Services and United Ways of Greenwich, New Canaan and Stamford, the Community Fund of Darien as well as generous individual, foundation, and corporate contributions.

###