

**CGC NAMES NEW PSYCHOLOGY INTERNS TO PRE-DOCTORAL PROGRAM**

STAMFORD, CT/September 10, 2007 – The Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut (CGC) has announced the one-year appointment of five interns to its Pre-Doctoral Internship Program in Child and Adolescent Psychology. Selected for their exceptional qualifications from a field of over 163 applicants, the interns – Sarah Blumengarten, Stephanie Hartman, Dominika Staszeczka, Michal Levi and Sarah McClure – will work closely with the CGC’s experienced therapists to further the development of their expertise in this highly specialized field.

Prior to the CGC, Sarah Blumengarten spent one year at Pathways Counseling Center in San Leandro, Calif. as a psychology trainee and one year at Clinical and Forensic Psychology Private Practice as a Psychological Testing Assistant in San Francisco. She has also held positions at Walden House, a non-profit residential facility in San Francisco; Crisis Support Services of Alameda County; Hal-Brooke Behavioral Health Services in Westport; and volunteered at the Professional Center for Child Development in Andover, Mass. Blumengarten holds a bachelor of science degree in Psychology from Sacred Heart University, also earned a master of arts degree in clinical psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University in San Francisco and is currently enrolled as a candidate for a doctoral degree in clinical psychology at the same institution.

Since July 2006, Stephanie Hartman has served as an extern at Montefiore Medical Center in N.Y. as part of the Child Outpatient Psychiatry Department and Adolescent Depression and Suicide Program. Concurrently, since September 2003, she was a practicum at Thomas J. McShane Center for Psychology Services in New York City. Hartman has also held positions at Glen Rock (N.J.) Public School System, National Conference of Synagogue Youth, NYU Child Study Center, Bnei Akiva in New York City and Camp Moshava in Honesdale, Penn. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from Yeshiva University’s Stern College for Women in New York City. She went on to earn a master of science in education with a major in school psychology from Pace University and is currently enrolled in the university’s School-Clinical Child Psychology Program as a candidate for a doctoral degree in school-clinical child psychology. Hartman completed a fellowship at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in N.Y. in the Adolescent Psychoeducational Treatment Program and is a student affiliate with the American

Psychology Association, the New York State Psychological Association and NEFESH (International Network of Orthodox Mental Health Professionals).

Dominika Staszeczka completed a number of externships prior to joining the CGC. Since May 2006, she worked as both a therapy practicum and a diagnostic practicum extern at the practice of Alan P. Childs, M.A., Psy.D., P.A., in Palos Hills, Ill. Before that, Staszeczka completed a three-week clerkship at Michael Rees Hospital in Chicago and held extern positions at the Hesed House in Aurora, Illinois and Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Chicago. Her other experience includes serving as an instructor at American Corrective Counseling Services and as a primary delegation leader with People to People Student Ambassador Program both located in South Cook County, Ill. Fluent in Polish, Staszeczka earned bachelor of science degree in psychology from Loyola University and a master of arts degree in clinical psychology with a specialization in counseling from Chicago School of Professional Psychology in Lombard, Ill. She is currently enrolled at Midwestern University as a candidate for a doctoral degree in clinical psychology.

Since August 2003, Westport-resident Michal Levi has worked as a mental health worker at Saint Mary's Hospital in Waterbury. She serves as a clinician and a testing supervisor at Long Island University's Psychological Services in Brooklyn and has completed an externship at North Central Bronx Hospital. Levi has held additional positions at the Bronx Children Psychiatric Center and Silver Hill Hospital in New Canaan. Levi earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from the University of Connecticut, holds a master of arts degree in clinical psychology from Long Island University and is currently enrolled in the doctoral degree program in clinical psychology at the same institution. Levi is also a student member of the American Psychological Association.

Sarah McClure has an extensive clinical practica most recently as a psychology practica at Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside, N.J. and Abington Friends School in Jenkintown, Penn. Her other clinical experiences include positions at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, The Warwick House in Hartsville, Penn., as part of the Family Therapy Treatment Team at Bryn Mawr College's Child Study Institute and in the Rose-Tree Media School District in Media, Penn. In addition, McClure has held contracted school psychologist positions at the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School in Philadelphia, Chester County Intermediate Unit in Downingtown, Penn. and in the Upper Darby

School District. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in biological anthropology from Swarthmore College in Penn. and a master of art degree in clinical developmental psychology from Bryn Mawr College, and is currently a candidate for a doctoral degree in clinical developmental psychology at the same institution. In 2004, McClure also received professional credentials as a Pennsylvania Certified School Psychologist.

The CGC's Psychology Pre-Doctoral Internship Program offers a unique and personalized teaching program for the next generation of clinical psychologists. The Center works with local universities to provide members of the program with hands-on, practical experience working with real life cases. Individuals work closely with CGC professionals discussing individual cases, planning courses of treatment, as well as attending staff seminars and case conferences.

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 service agencies, and physicians. The CGC's clinical staff of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and marriage and family therapist 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 professional 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.

###