



children's home + aid

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**IN TOUGH ECONOMY WILLIAM MILLER TRUST
ISSUES CHALLENGE FOR CHILDREN'S HOME + AID**

Match Offers Incentive for Others to Give

Rockford, IL. (September 3, 2009) Children's Home + Aid announced today the William Miller Trust of AMCORE Bank has offered a 1:2 challenge grant for MotherHouse Crisis Nursery, which provides emergency childcare and an array of services to families in crisis. The Trust will support MotherHouse with a \$5,000 donation if Children's Home + Aid can raise an additional \$10,000 for the Crisis Nursery.

Rockford's unemployment rate is currently one of the highest in the state at 15.1%. When unemployment rises, there is an even greater need for the free emergency child care services MotherHouse Crisis Nursery provides. Once open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, MotherHouse began operating only five days per week, 8:00 AM until 10:00PM, after the state budget cuts and 15% decrease of United Way support forced the program to cut staff salaries. This means families in crisis who need childcare on weekends or overnight have no place to turn.

"These dollars will go a long way to getting us back on track with the 24/7 services," stated Robin Carlson-Goeth, MotherHouse Program Supervisor. Jay Evans, of AMCORE Bank commented, "We hope this challenge will offer an incentive for others to give to help such a worthwhile, much needed service."

Children's Home + Aid is a leading child and family service agency in Illinois. Each year, it protects, educates and counsels more than 40,000 children, youth and families to improve their lives. Since 1883, Children's Home + Aid has been a compassionate advocate helping to shape public policy in child welfare, early childhood and juvenile justice. Children's Home + Aid is recognized for establishing best practices and achieving outstanding results through its programs and services that focus on child abuse prevention, healthy child development and strengthening families.

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Children's Home + Aid has served the Northern Region of the state since 1939, and MotherHouse became a part of Children's Home + Aid in 2003. Located at 1603 S. 4th Street, the home offers an array of services in addition to childcare, including transportation, parenting education classes and resource referrals services.

For more information about Children's Home + Aid, visit www.childrenshomeandaid.org.

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