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children's home + aid

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**JPMorgan Chase Foundation Funds Children's Home + Aid's Learning Lab
in Chicago's Englewood Community**

CHICAGO, IL - Children's Home + Aid will host an opening ceremony for their newly launched Learning Lab U, an innovative computer and training center housed at Children's Home + Aid's Mitzi Freidheim Englewood Child + Family Center, on Monday, June 9, from 1 - 2 pm.

Funded by a generous grant from the JPMorgan Chase Foundation, Learning Lab U will provide critical workforce development and technology training for residents of Greater Englewood and the surrounding communities. Officially launched in early 2014, Learning Lab U is a newly renovated computer lab that will provide over 300 youth and adults in the Greater Englewood community access to technology, computer literacy training, and assist in workforce development by offering on-site job readiness training and placement.

"Technology is one of our most powerful tools for addressing the skills gap, which can help reduce unemployment and create more broadly shared prosperity," said Liz Connelly, managing director of JPMorgan Chase. "Using strong partnerships like we have with Children's Home + Aid to provide a platform for individuals to gain the skills they need to succeed in the new economy is key to our workforce development initiative."

"We celebrate the role of philanthropy every day at Children's Home + Aid," says Nancy Ronquillo, President and CEO, "but today is very special because of the strong partnership that our organization has formed with the JPMorgan Chase Foundation. Because of their great generosity, our children and families are benefitting in amazing new ways. The Learning Lab U is helping us to go beyond meeting the basic needs of our community. It is providing parents and families the support they need to learn, to dream, and to reach their potential."

The launch event is open to the public and will include a short program beginning at 1:30 pm at the Mitzi Freidheim Englewood Child + Family Center at 1701 West 63rd Street. Speaking at the event on behalf of JPMorgan Chase will be Elizabeth Hartigan Connelly, along with remarks from State Senator Jacqueline Y. Collins (D-Chicago 16th), Nancy Ronquillo, President

and CEO of Children's Home + Aid, Mitzi Freidheim, named benefactor of the Englewood child and family center, and a student of Learning Lab U, Lionel Harden.

Children's Home + Aid will use Learning Lab U, a 12 station computer learning lab with SmartBoard technology, for the presentation of interactive computer literacy workshops. Computer literacy workshops will be provided on a monthly basis by certified instructors, and supervised Open Lab time will be offered weekly for job seeking and pursuing educational goals, serving up to 300 clients ages 18 - 35. Through a community partnership with the Chicago City Colleges and Englewood's Kennedy-King College, the Learning Lab U is also host to GED prep courses. The entirety of the project is funded through the generous support of the JPMorgan Chase Foundation.

About Children's Home + Aid

Children's Home + Aid is a leading child and family service agency in Illinois. The organization helps children recover their health, their hope, and their faith in the people around them. We link children to a network of opportunity and care, to extended family, teachers, mentors, and the resources of the neighborhood and community. For 130 years, the organization has gone wherever children and families need them, and work where that work has been proven to be most effective: at home, in the classroom, in the neighborhood, in the course of daily life. The organization has offices located across Illinois and serves more than 40,000 children and families in over 60 counties each year. For more information about Children's Home + Aid, visit childrenshomeandaid.org.

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