



children's home + aid

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Media Contact

Rebecca Clarkin at 312-424-6808

Rclarkin@childrenshomeandaid.org

**ILLINOIS PARTNERS FOR HUMAN SERVICE AND THE SEARLE FUNDS AT THE
CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST PARTNER TO RAISE PROFILE OF HUMAN
SERVICES IN ILLINOIS**

CHICAGO, Ill. (October 4, 2010) Illinois Partners for Human Service today announced it received a \$125,000 grant from The Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust to support the continuing work of the Illinois Partners for Human Service coalition. Illinois Partners is a growing, diverse, multi-disciplinary coalition united in its mission to meet the human services needs of individuals, families, and communities and to improve the collective well-being of residents of Illinois. Illinois Partners envisions a strong statewide human services system that contributes to a vibrant state economy by supporting and enhancing the well-being of all individuals, families, and communities.

Illinois Partners' goal is to bring together human services providers with concerned residents, business and civic leaders, academic and policy experts, constituency groups and communities of faith in collective dialogue, problem-solving and advocacy around three critical issues impacting the delivery of human services in Illinois: adequate funding, quality services and measurable results. Illinois Partner members include: Children's Home + Aid, The Chicago Community Trust, Catholic Charities, Christopher House, Donor's Forum, Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights, Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago, One Hope United, Metropolitan Family Services, United Way of Illinois, United Way of Metropolitan Chicago, and YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago.

"Our state's human services infrastructure protects and supports one of our most important resources: families. But, like the bridges and roads we travel on, community services must be well-managed, maintained and renewed if families and communities are going to remain healthy and safe and be prepared for the economic challenges of the future," said Nancy Ronquillo, chair of Illinois Partners for Human Service and President and CEO of Children's Home + Aid. Children's Home + Aid, a leading child and family service agency in Illinois, serves as fiscal agent for The Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust grant.

“The Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust’s generous contribution will help Illinois Partners to gain momentum in its work to raise awareness and to educate lawmakers about the need to strengthen the human services system,” continued Ronquillo. Illinois Partners plans to use the funds to support the full-time Campaign Manager and the Illinois Partners website (www.illinoispartners.org).

About Children’s Home + Aid

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

About The Chicago Community Trust

For 95 years, The Chicago Community Trust, our region’s community foundation, has connected the generosity of donors with the needs of the community by making grants to organizations working to improve metropolitan Chicago. In 2009 the Trust made over \$100 million in grants. From strengthening community schools to assisting local art programs, from building health centers to helping lives affected by violence, the Trust works to enhance our region. Learn more at www.cct.org.

#