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November is National Adoption Month

2010 Marks Record-Breaking Year of Public Adoptions in South Florida by Leading Child Welfare Organization

Family Resource Center of South Florida, Inc. Exceeds Adoption Goal with 121 Adoptions

Miami, FL – August 25, 2010 – In anticipation of National Adoption Month this November, **Family Resource Center of South Florida, Inc.** (“FRC”), one of the state’s leading child welfare organizations, is pleased to announce the adoption of **121** youths from the Miami-Dade area during the past year (fiscal year ending June 30, 2010). Given an annual goal of **59** finalized adoptions by Our Kids of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Family Resource Center surpassed the goal by more than 100% by the June 30th deadline. FRC was the only Full Case Management agency in the Miami-Dade/Monroe area to achieve over 100 adoptions for the year.

Dr. Oren Wunderman, Executive Director of Family Resource Center, reflected on the agency’s recent tremendous success with adoptions, “We are delighted to have finalized 121 adoptions this year and are thankful that so many loving adults stepped forward to help these children achieve forever families.” “The children’s case managers, our legal counsel, and particularly our adoption specialist, worked incredibly hard to make sure that each case could move forward quickly, thus reducing the time that the child spent in the foster care system.”

Family Resource Center provides child welfare and advocacy services to over 1,000 children annually in Miami-Dade. Approximately two-thirds of these children will be reunified with their parent(s), while one-third will become free for adoption. Family Resource Center works to respectfully treat, rehabilitate, and mentor troubled families through comprehensive, responsive care. Its goal is to keep families together, where appropriate, and strengthen loving ties to the family and the community. Through the provision of evidence-based, dignified, and confidential services, Family Resource Center works to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect. In cases where parental reunification is not possible, Family Resource Center works tirelessly to find caring adoptive homes by providing recruiting and training services to prospective adoptive parents.

National Adoption Month is celebrated throughout the month of November with more than 350 community events taking place throughout the country. Locally, Family Resource Center along with Our Kids, other area agencies, and the Eleventh Judicial District will celebrate National Adoption Day in South Florida on November 19, 2010. Family Resource Center expects to finalize several adoptions at the fun-filled family event which will take place at the Miami Children’s Museum from 9AM - 1PM (980 MacArthur Causeway, Miami, FL).

If you would like to learn more about public adoptions, request an interview with Dr. Wunderman of Family Resource Center, or spotlight some of the recent inspiring adoption stories please contact Amber Haeckel at 917-805-0471.

About Family Resource Center

Family Resource Center of South Florida, Inc., a non-profit organization, was founded in 1978 by a group of concerned community leaders. FRC's Mission is the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect by strengthening families through the provision of Family Support Services, Case Management, Crisis Intervention, Parent Education Classes, and Mental Health and Substance Abuse Counseling Services.

FRC won Florida Trend Magazine's BEST PLACES TO WORK in 2010 and is the only non-profit organization recognized for the award.

About the Executive Director, Dr. Oren Wunderman

Oren Wunderman, Ph.D., has worked in non-profit child welfare agencies or mental health centers for most of the last thirty years. He is licensed as a Psychologist, Marriage and Family Therapist, and Mental Health Counselor. He earned his Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees from the University of Miami. He has taken coursework in non-profit management from the Harvard University School of Business and the Florida International University School of Business. For the past 15 years, he has been a yearly guest lecturer in the subjects of Child Abuse and Forensic Psychology at the University of Miami, Departments of Counseling and Clinical Psychology, Miami Children's Hospital and several local Community Mental Health Centers.

Dr. Wunderman has been with FRC for the past 15 years, 10 of which he has served as the Executive Director. During his tenure, Dr. Wunderman has enabled FRC to triple in size while expanding the complexity and scope of services. He extols to the staff the values of Transformational Leadership, whose cornerstone beliefs are: (1) Treat the clients respectfully, always caring for them as though they were loved members of your family, and (2) Always preserve a fundamental humility and awe about the vital services provided to troubled clients.

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