



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Family Resource Center Receives \$7,500 Grant for Healthy Foster Kids Program From the Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation**

Miami, FL – July, 2013 – Family Resource Center of South Florida (FRC), one of the state’s leading child welfare organizations, has received a grant award of \$7,500 from the Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation to support its Healthy Foster Kids Program, an initiative that provides critical health, dental and mental health care to children who have experienced child abuse and neglect.

“Many of the children who come into our care have medical issues stemming from their abuse, as well as severe emotional trauma,” said Dr. Oren Wunderman, Executive Director of Family Resource Center. “It is crucial that children who have experienced physical, mental, and/or sexual abuse get the mental and physical healthcare they need, by high quality providers in a timely manner, so that they can heal and begin on the road to a normal life.”

The Healthy Foster Kids Program fills in the gap for those children who lack medical insurance, who are awaiting coverage, or who have previously utilized the maximum benefit of their coverage. Services included in the program are medical appointments with primary care doctors, specialist visits, lab services, prescribed medications, vision and hearing checks, glasses and hearing aids if indicated, mental health assessments, mental health counseling, and dental care. Family Resource Center also provides healthcare records to the permanent guardian/adoptive parents/reunified parents so that kids can maintain connections to their healthcare providers and caretakers can ensure that ongoing treatment is not interrupted. All teen clients who age out at 18 are also given a full record of all medical, dental and mental healthcare services.

Dr. Wunderman added “Untreated conditions, be they physical or mental, can create a lifetime of agony and distress. This program ensures that all kids in the foster care system get the treatments they need so that they can go on to live healthy, productive lives as adults.”

### **About the Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation, Inc.**

The Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation, Inc. is a private grant-making foundation, supporting projects and programs designed to improve, preserve or restore the health and health care of the people in Miami-Dade County. For more information or a grant application, please contact Ms. Kim Greene, Executive Director, 1550 Madruga Avenue, Suite 215, Coral Gables, FL 33146, (305) 667-6017, website: [www.jtmacdonaldfdn.org](http://www.jtmacdonaldfdn.org).

### **About Family Resource Center**

Founded in 1978, Family Resource Center of South Florida is a non-profit child welfare agency in Miami-Dade County that provides a continuum of care for children who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned by their parent(s). The agency coordinates all services needed including finding safe and appropriate housing, getting the children medical, dental, and mental health care, providing after-school tutoring, and meeting any additional needs that the children may have (such as clothing, car seats, bedding, etc). In the last year, FRC provided services to more than 1,100 children.

FRC's Mission is the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect through the strengthening of families.

FRC won Florida Trend Magazine's BEST PLACES TO WORK in both 2010 and 2011 and is one of only two non-profit organizations chosen for the award.

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