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- Alliance for Children and Families
- Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies
- Catholic Charities USA
- Children's Home Society of America
- Child Welfare League of America
- Foster Family-Based Treatment Association
- Joint Council on International Children's Services
- Lutheran Services in America
- National Council For Adoption
- National Foundation for Credit Counseling
- National Network for Youth
- National Organization of State Associations for Children
- Prevent Child Abuse America
- Volunteers of America

Council on Accreditation

120 Wall Street
11th Floor
New York, NY 10005
212.797.3000
Fax 212.797.1428
www.coanet.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

8/1/2008

Contact: John Sullivan, Jr., President

Phone: (804) 346 – 0051

Email Address: vpod@ifcsinc.com

**INSTITUTE FOR FAMILY CENTERED SERVICES
BECOMES ACCREDITED**

Institute for Family Centered Services has received notification that it has been accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA), according to an announcement made to **John Sullivan, Jr. President** of the organization; the corporate headquarters located at 3210 Skipwith Road, Richmond, VA 23294, USA.

Institute for Family Centered Services (IFCS) is a privately owned organization founded in 1988. Co-founder and President, John Sullivan, Ph.D., a recognized leader and innovator in the development of family and community based programs, has guided IFCS for the past 20 years. During this time IFCS has developed a model of intensive in home services, **Family Centered Treatment®**, and has consistently maintained the *best practices* standards of Family Preservation Services.

Institute for Family Centered Services is nationally recognized as one of the largest and most diverse family-centered practices in the country. Since the company's inception, IFCS has grown significantly and currently provides services in 4 states: Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, and Florida. IFCS currently employs 300 people throughout 23 regions of the company, actively serving over 2,500 families annually.

Throughout its 20 years of providing services, IFCS has earned the reputation for successfully treating the most challenging and resistant families, utilizing powerful and rigorous interventions to maximize community safety. Additionally, in response to community needs, IFCS' **Family Centered Treatment®** has been utilized for work with specialty populations to include those struggling with substance abuse, sexual offense, trauma, and domestic violence.

COA accreditation attests that an organization meets the highest national standards of best practice and is delivering the best quality services to the community it serves. **Institute for Family Centered Services** is proud to join COA's Community of Excellence, which is comprised of more than 1,800 private and public organizations that serve over 7 million children, youth, individuals and families in North America.

Founded in 1977, COA is an independent, not-for-profit accreditor of the full continuum of community-based behavioral health care and social service organizations. COA's

mission is to partner with human service organizations worldwide to improve service delivery outcomes by developing, applying and promoting accreditation standards. COA envisions excellence in the delivery of human services globally, resulting in the well-being of individuals, families, and communities.

The COA accreditation process involves a detailed review and analysis of an organization's administrative operations and service delivery against national standards of best practice. All of the programs contained within an organization for which COA has a service standard are subject to review as COA reviews and accredits the entire organization, not specific programs.

COA is endorsed by leading consumer and professional groups and by many regulatory bodies and managed care organizations. COA is sponsored by the Alliance for Children and Families, Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies, Catholic Charities USA, Child Welfare League of America, Children's Home Society of America, Foster Family-based Treatment Association, Joint Council on International Children's Services, Lutheran Services in America, National Council for Adoption, National Foundation for Credit Counseling, National Network for Youth, National Organization of State Associations for Children, Prevent Child Abuse America and Volunteers of America.

COA's supporting endorsers include the following organizations: American Association of Children's Residential Centers, American Network of Community Options and Resources, Child Welfare League of Canada, EAGLE Program of United Methodist Association, Mental Health Corporations of America, Inc. National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, National Association of Family-Based Services, National Association of Psychiatric Treatment Centers for Children, National Association of Social Workers, National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors, Inc. National Association of Therapeutic Wilderness Camps and National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare.

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