

PRESS RELEASE

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Children & Families First Appoints New Executive Director and Director of Development

Wilmington - Children & Families First is pleased to announce that **Leslie Newman** has been named the agency's new Executive Director, effective January 1, 2007. She assumes the role, upon Al Snyder's retirement, following a national search. Children & Families First also welcomes **Kathleen Hershey** as the agency's new Director of Development, effective March 29, 2007.

As Director of Development for Children & Families First for the past 15 years, Ms. Newman has been an active member of the agency Leadership Team and had specific responsibility for fundraising, communications, public relations, strategic planning, and volunteer activities.

Ms. Newman has a long history as an active community volunteer. She is currently President of the Board of Directors of the Milton & Hattie Kutz Foundation, member of the Advisory Board of the Carl M. Freeman Foundation, member of the Advisory Board of the Fund for Women, Executive Committee Member for the Jewish Community Center and Advisor for the Youth Philanthropy Board of the Delaware Community Foundation. She is past President of both the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Delaware (1996-1998) as well as the Board of Directors of Jewish Family Service (1988-1990).

Ms. Newman received her B.S. in Elementary Education as well as her Masters in Education with a Reading Specialty from S.U.N.Y. at Buffalo. She was the 1999 recipient of the NCCJ Community Builder Award and the Harry Cohen Leadership Award in 1998. Ms. Newman and her husband reside in Wilmington and are the proud parents of two sons.

As Director of Development, Ms. Hershey will oversee all fundraising, public relations and volunteer efforts. She previously served as Development Director at The Family & Workplace Connection in Wilmington since 2003 and was also the organization's School Age Program Coordinator from 1998-2002. She is an active member of DANA (Delaware Association of Nonprofit Agencies) and serves on the Board of the AFP (Association of Fundraising Professionals) Brandywine Chapter.

Ms. Hershey received her B.S. in Elementary Education from the University of Delaware. She and her family reside in Lincoln University, PA.

Children & Families First, a private non-profit agency, strengthens families and communities by providing quality social, educational and mental health services. Services include parent education, workplace services, foster care, adoption, counseling, a teen residential treatment center, teen pregnancy prevention and infant mortality prevention. Services are provided out of eight offices located throughout Delaware as well as in homes, schools, and other community locations. In 2006, services were provided to nearly 30,000 individuals statewide. Children & Families First is a member of the United Way of Delaware and is accredited by COA (Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children).

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