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The Children's Partnership Celebrates Seven Years of Providing Service for Austin's Families with Carnival Night

Awards Ceremony Will Honor Key Supporters and School Supplies to be Collected

AUSTIN, TX, July 19, 2005--The Children's Partnership is hosting a celebration of its seven-year anniversary with Carnival Night at the Austin Children's Museum on Saturday, July 23 from 6-8 pm. The event is open to the public to attend and all guests have been asked to donate school supplies for the children currently receiving care from The Children's Partnership. An entrance fee to the museum has been set at \$5 a person and will be reduced to \$2 a person with a school supply donation. Guests will also be invited to participate in carnival games, a silent auction, and face painting in addition to enjoying the museum exhibits during the event.

As explained by key supporter Travis County Commissioner Margaret Gomez, "For the past seven years, The Children's Partnership has been the only avenue available for parents with emotionally disturbed children seeking comprehensive mental health care services. The Partnership is one of the most valuable health resources for families in Travis County."

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, one in five children will need mental health services at some point in their lives. These challenges may include thoughts of suicide to inconsistent bouts of depression to rage in children depending on the severity of the mental health problems. The Children's Partnership addresses this issue by bringing the community together to meet the needs of children with complex mental health challenges and to provide support to their families. Princess Katana, Project Director for The

Children's Partnership, also serves as the Austin representative for children on Mayor Wynn's Mental Health Care Taskforce among other industry boards.

About The Children's Partnership

All proceeds of the event will go directly to benefit the services of The Children's Partnership, an Austin-based non-profit organization providing a collaborative system of care approach to serve families with children who have severe emotional disturbances. The Children's Partnership, along with having its own direct care and administrative staff, represents eleven partner agencies: Community Resource Coordination Group, Austin-Travis County Mental Health and Mental Retardation, Region XIII Education Service Center, Region VII Department of Family and Protective Services, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Travis County Health and Human Services and Veteran Services, Travis County Juvenile Probation Department, Austin Independent School District, Manor Independent School District, Pflugerville Independent School District, and Huston-Tillotson University. www.childrenspartnership.com

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