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COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER INC'S NEW HORIZON'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES PROGRAM RECEIVES GRANT FROM MIDDLESEX COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Grant funding will support the shelter's child advocate program

Middletown, CT (February 9, 2012): Community Health Center, Inc.'s New Horizon's Domestic Violence Services program has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Middlesex County Community Foundation Board of Directors. The grant is made possible by the generosity of the Ann T. D'Addario Family Foundation Fund.

The grant funding will be used to support New Horizon's Child Advocate Services program. This program, which has been in effect since the inception of New Horizons in 1979, is an essential resource for children and teens whose lives are impacted by domestic violence. The advocate works with children and teens to educate them about domestic violence and how not to become a victim or a perpetrator.

"The ultimate goal of the child advocacy program is to end the cycle of abuse by educating our youth," explained Michele Waldner, program coordinator at New Horizons. "We are thankful to the Community Foundation for providing grant funding for this much needed program. This support will enhance our efforts in primary prevention and help us in getting one step closer to ending the cycle of domestic violence."

The advocate is a staff member of the shelter and is available to assist with the varied needs of these young victims, including counseling, school enrollment, help with homework, and transfer of medical records when required. In addition, the advocate is a resource available to all schools in Middlesex County.

Sarah Chagnon, the child advocate for New Horizon's, is thrilled about what this grant means for the ongoing support she provides to youth in the area. "I am very excited about the grant funding, as it will allow me the opportunity to continue to work with teens and children in our community regarding safe and healthy relationships," she explained. "The work we do together greatly improves their self esteem and their interaction with others."

About the Middlesex County Community Foundation

The Middlesex County Community Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in Middlesex County. Our mission is to work with charitably-minded individuals and organizations, to build permanent endowments and other charitable funds to support local non-profit organizations through effective grant making to address community needs.

Since its founding in 1997, Middlesex County Community Foundation has awarded 758 grants totaling over \$2.2 M to nonprofit organizations to improve the arts; cultural and heritage programs; educational activities; environmental conditions; and health and human services. Its assets include a dedicated Board of Directors and over \$7M in pooled assets and \$13.5M in known planned gifts. For more information, visit www.MiddlesexCountyCF.org

About Community Health Center, Inc.

Since 1972, Community Health Center, Inc. has been one of the leading healthcare providers in the state of Connecticut, building a world-class primary health care system committed to caring for uninsured and underserved populations. CHC is focused on improving health outcomes for its more than 130,000 patients, as well as building healthy communities. Currently, CHC delivers service in 201 locations statewide, offering primary care in medicine, dentistry and behavioral health services. For more information, visit www.chc1.com.

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