



NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Young Children's Day Treatment Completes LifeWorks NW's Continuum of Care

PORTLAND, Ore. (October 1, 2007) – LifeWorks NW is honored to welcome the Children's Psychiatric Day Treatment Center, now operating under Oregon Health Sciences University, to the LifeWorks NW system of children's services. The program will officially transfer from OHSU to LifeWorks NW on October 1, 2007 and its name will change to the Young Children's Day Treatment Program.

"OHSU and LifeWorks NW share a common mission -- to improve the health of our community," said Mary Monnat, president and CEO of LifeWorks NW. "By adding these services for emotionally disturbed children ages three to ten to our existing day programs, we will complete the array of treatment services for children ages three to 18."

"We feel that the mission and services offered by LifeWorks NW, as a large agency with many special resources, will greatly enhance our ability to provide comprehensive services. We believe that becoming a part of LifeWorks NW will serve to strengthen our mission and our work," said Les G. Busch, Assistant Professor and program director.

Established in 1970, the Day Treatment program provides services to children who are referred from all over the Portland metropolitan area by public schools, social services agencies, health care professionals, day care centers and parents. Children enrolled in the program receive 230 days of treatment and special education, administered by a multidisciplinary treatment team. The average length of stay is 15 months.

In addition to a customized curriculum, the program incorporates behavioral, social, relationship and physical therapy, something traditional interventional programs do **not** address. Treatment teams, including a teacher/therapist, milieu therapists and senior clinical supervisor assess, plan, implement and evaluate the treatment and education strategy for three groups of eight children and their families. At enrollment, parents commit to weekly counseling sessions, which include child management techniques, individual therapy, marital therapy and play therapy.

LifeWorks NW also operates similar day treatment programs in Washington County for adolescents, ages 12-18 and last year launched a program for children ages 8-11 at its Tigard site. In Multnomah County, LifeWorks NW runs the Nickerson day treatment program for adolescents, ages 11-18 at its Albina site. The new program completes the continuum of care for children ages 3-18. Children's intensive services help children stay at home with their families and in their schools when they have completed their treatment.

Founded in 1961 and based in Portland, Oregon with clinics and service centers throughout Multnomah, Washington and Clatsop Counties, LifeWorks NW is a non-profit agency, which provides mental health, addiction and related social services for a healthy community. The agency depends on community support and private funding to provide results-driven support services for children and families, adults and older adults. For more information or to set up an interview, please contact Sue Lyon-Myrick, Marketing Coordinator, at 503.645.3581 ext 2245.

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On the Internet:

LifeWorks NW, www.lifeworksnw.org