

## *FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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### **STATE STREET FOUNDATION AWARDS \$10,000 GRANT TO THE CHILDREN'S HOME YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

**MT. HOLLY, NJ, Sept. 2011** – The State Street Foundation awarded a \$10,000 grant to The Children's Home in Mount Holly, NJ in support of our Work Appreciation for Youth Program (WAY). This job readiness and life skills development program is aimed at helping New Jersey's troubled and at-risk youth at The Children's Home take an active role to positively impact their future by acquiring a sense of control over their lives through self-sufficiency.

"Troubled and at-risk youth are in danger of poor life outcomes without life skills building opportunities provided with a program like WAY. It is imperative that when they leave The Children's Home they are armed with marketable skills they can put to immediate use and a knowledge base necessary to take control of their lives and resist societal ills," said Greg Wilson, WAY Program Director.

The WAY Program teaches job readiness and life skills through workshops such as writing a resume & interviewing, appropriate workplace behavior and interactions, banking and budgeting, and other knowledge bases needed for workplace success and independence. Real life employment opportunities are offered on campus, and youth are also encouraged to seek off campus employment in the field of their choice through paid internships. Additionally, in order to participate in the WAY program, youth are required to remain in good academic standing in an effort to also help them gain an appreciation for an education and understand its importance in their lives.

Founded in 1864, The Children's Home is a private, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization providing programs and services to New Jersey's children, youth, young adults and their families. We serve over 300 boys and girls annually, up to 21 years of age, throughout all of our programs, including basic and trauma informed residential treatment, alternative to detention, special education, emergency shelter and supported housing. Additional services also now being offered by The Children's Home include intensive residential treatment for youth with psychiatric and behavioral needs, as well as in-home respite and behavioral support training for youth with developmental disabilities and their families. The Children's Home mission is to provide professional therapeutic and supportive services that help children and their families to become productive members of society.