



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Board of Child Care Breaks Ground on Eastern Shore Group Home for Youth

BALTIMORE – (June 16, 2010) – The Board of Child Care (BCC), a nonprofit child welfare agency based in Baltimore, is breaking ground June 22 on a new group home for youth near Denton, Md.

BCC's new facility will include two homes, each with eight single bedrooms for youth, ages 14 to 18, referred to BCC by social service departments on the upper and lower Eastern Shore. One home will be for short-term placement, and the other for long-term. An activities center will also be constructed to house a meeting room, a movie, game and computer room, and classrooms for onsite schooling. The facility, located on a 117-acre parcel formerly known as Whitetail Farms, is slated to open in 2011.

“It has been one of my personal goals, since I began my leadership at the Board of Child Care 17 years ago, to expand our services to youth on the Eastern Shore, where access to child welfare resources is more limited,” says Thomas L. Curcio, BCC's President and CEO. “The Board of Child Care will do everything it can to be a good neighbor. We will form an advisory committee made up of community members and will work closely with local departments of social services, the schools and other agencies throughout the Eastern Shore to do everything possible to ensure quality of care and supervision of the children who come into our care.”

The new group home is supported by a \$300,000 grant from the Wicomico Partnership for Families and Children, the local Management Board for Wicomico County, and the Governor's Office of Children and Families. Local churches within the Peninsula-Delaware Conference of The United Methodist Church have also supported BCC throughout the development of the Eastern Shore project, as have the Caroline County Department of Social Services, and the state Department of Health and Human Services.

BCC has a long history of serving children and families in the community as an outreach ministry within the Baltimore-Washington and Peninsula-Delaware Conferences of the United Methodist Church. The agency began as three orphanages that opened in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, and then merged in 1960 to become the Board of Child Care.

Today, BCC has grown to serve more than 1,300 children and families. Programs include residential care, emergency shelters, foster care, early childhood education, therapeutic counseling, adoption information and referral, a special education school and a car loan program. BCC is headquartered in Baltimore but also operates facilities in West Virginia and DC, and has community-based group homes in Montgomery and Washington counties.

BCC's vision is to be a community of hope: providing an opportunity to heal, and a safe and caring environment for children, youth and families. **To learn more, visit www.boardofchildcare.org.**

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EVENT: Groundbreaking Ceremony for Board of Child Care Eastern Shore Group Home

WHEN: June 22, 11 a.m.

WHERE: Whitetail Farm Lane, off of Substation Road, Denton, Md., 21629