

News Release

Presbyterian Children's Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Presbyterian Children's Services Welcomes Caren Mell as Executive Director of Farmington Children's Home

(Farmington, MO) March 16, 2007 — Presbyterian Children's Services announces the appointment of Caren Mell as the Site Director of the Farmington Children's Home in Farmington, Missouri. Caren has been working with children for 27 years in and around the Farmington area.

"It has been a pleasure working with Caren as a therapist," said Robert Giegling, Executive Vice President, Program, Presbyterian Children's Services, "I am pleased that she has agreed to join our team as executive director at Farmington Children's Home."

For the past nine years, Caren has been employed by the Farmington School District as a therapist, working with students and parents at the Midwest Learning Center, Farmington Middle School and Farmington High School. She has also served at Park Hills Mental Health Services and the St. Francois County Division of Family Services. From all of these vantage points, Caren has acquired a broad perspective on the needs of children and the best methods for dealing with a variety of issues.

"I'm very excited," said Caren. "For me it feels like I'm coming full circle from a personal and a professional perspective. When I started working with kids 27 years ago, I was employed by the Division of Family Services, working with kids at the Farmington Children's Home. Now I'm here full-time and I feel like this is where I belong."

The Executive Director manages the operations and work of Farmington Children's Home within the guidelines and philosophy of Presbyterian Children's Services. It is a large task. Over 200 children yearly come into the home and no situation is exactly the same. Being director requires a great deal of fortitude, flexibility and responsiveness – all while maintaining a positive attitude.

Based on the teachings of Christ, Presbyterian Children's Services provides compassionate and therapeutic social, psychological and educational services to children and families of all faiths. The Farmington Children's Home fulfills this mission by

providing residential treatment services and the guidance of a comprehensive mentoring program.

If you would like to know more about how you can help serve the needs of children through Farmington Children's Home, please contact Jim Wills at 573-756-7646 or e-mail him at jimwills@care4kids.org.

About Presbyterian Children's Services

Presbyterian Children's Services cares for abused children and counsels their families through therapeutic programs of diagnostic evaluation, emergency shelter, foster care, group home and residential care services (including family-focused residential services), independent living services, educational support services, residential treatment services (including intensive residential services for adolescents) and community outreach programs.