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Childcare Resources Announces 2010 Children's Advocate Award Nominees

BIRMINGHAM, AL — Today we announced 21 individuals and organizations as nominees for the Childcare Resources' 2010 Children's Advocate Award during a News Conference / Red Balloon Day. As the smiling and laughing children from the Sixth Avenue Learning Center played on the playground, the nominees were introduced to their family, friends and the community.

From this prestigious group, the award recipients will be announced at the prominent 20th annual Children's Advocate Award Luncheon, which honors those who have an extraordinary commitment to central Alabama's children. A fundraiser benefiting Childcare Resources, the March 30, 2010 event will be held from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Birmingham Ballroom, 2101 Richard Arrington Jr., Blvd. North.

The 2010 Children's Advocate Award nominees are:

- Barbara S. Allen
- Birmingham YMCA
- Larry Cabaniss
- Sam Charif
- Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham
- Dream Girls Christian Academy
- Fight 4Life Fitness and Boxing Ministry
- Ladye-Don Franklin
- Len and Teresa Holland
- Lonnie Holley
- Jasper Area Family Service Center
- Beth Johns
- Kid One Transport
- Julie Marks
- Dr. Artis W. Murphy
- Wilma Patterson
- Cedric D. Sparks, Sr.
- Susan Swartz
- Surpora Thomas
- Toyota Family Literacy Program
- Alice Williams

"Today we announced 21 remarkable people and agencies who have been nominated for the prestigious 20th annual Children's Advocate Award," says Childcare Resources Executive Director Joan Wright. "These folks are supporting the healthy growth and development of our community's children in many various ways – however, they all have one thing in common: passion for the work they do and a deep desire to make the world a better place by helping today's children."

Childcare Resources has the distinct honor of presenting the 2010 Margie Curry Lifetime Achievement Award to Governor and Mrs. Bob Riley. **Mrs. Riley will be in attendance at the luncheon to accept the award and at the VIP Reception scheduled for this Sunday, March 7, 2010.**

Mr. L. Gwaltney McCollum, Jr. serves as the 2010 Children's Advocate Award Luncheon Honorary Chair. Mr. McCollum's role in bettering the lives of families and children in Walker County is evident through his community involvement. Childcare Resources is proud and honored to have Mr. McCollum's partnership in this year's luncheon.

Individuals and nonprofit organizations may purchase a Patron Table for \$750, which includes a table for eight and a listing in the luncheon program. Individual tickets are \$65 per person. Corporate sponsorships are also available. Major sponsors to date include Alabama Power, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama, Altec Industries, CBS 42, Children's Health System, Cory Watson Crowder & DeGaris, First Commercial Bank, First National Bank of Jasper, HealthSouth Corp., KBR, Protective Life Corporation, Regions Bank, Royal Cup Coffee, ServisFirst Bank, Southern Nuclear Operating Company and Vulcan Materials.

For sponsorship, reservation or other information, contact Joy Godsey at (205) 252-1991 ext. 305 or jgodsey@ccr-bhm.org or visit www.ccr-bhm.org.

Childcare Resources — central Alabama's resource for child care — helps families locate child care, trains child care professionals, provides parent education services, and offers child care financial assistance to low-income, working families. A nonprofit organization and United Way partner agency since 1984, Childcare Resources works to make quality child care available and affordable in Blount, Jefferson, Shelby and Walker counties. For more information, call (205) 252-1991 ext. 306 or visit www.ccr-bhm.org.

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