



Baptist Children's Services, Inc.
"Empowering Youth to Succeed"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 28, 2014

**ChildFirst Services, Inc. and Baptist Children's Services, Inc. Announce
Partnership to Improve Services to Children in Foster Care**

Philadelphia, PA—ChildFirst Services, Inc., and Baptist Children's Services, Inc. announced today that the two organizations have formed a unique partnership to address gaps in services for children who are exiting foster care. ChildFirst Services, Inc. will be the entity that manages the four group homes previously operated by Baptist Children's Services, Inc. The four group homes become part of the ChildFirst Services, Inc. existing network of 18 group homes that are located in seven counties in Eastern PA. The partnership has the capacity to serve 150 children in a variety of group home settings. Baptist Children's Services, Inc. is the organization that manages the endowments and funds donated to Baptist Children's Services, Inc. for the betterment of children. Rather than supplementing fund for daily operations, the past and future contributions of donors will be used to fund projects that improve outcomes for youth in foster care.

"ChildFirst Services has long been concerned that only 5% of children in foster care go on to college and only 50% are employed full time in the years following their exit from foster care. We enter this partnership with the vision that together our organizations can reverse these statistics with programs and services that will have a significant impact on children exiting the foster care system" said Nathaniel. J. Williams, Ed.D, MHS, MPA, MBA; President/CEO, ChildFirst Services, Inc. He went on to say; "Baptist Children's Services, Inc. shares our deep and abiding commitment to the well-being of children. Together we will create an organization that will excel in motivating children to stretch beyond their past and create an exciting future for themselves and, in turn the community."

Reverend Charles W. Quann, President of Baptist Children's Services, Inc. shared his thoughts about the partnership: "As President of Baptist Children's Services, Inc. I am pleased to announce our partnership with ChildFirst Services, Inc. These two organizations have a history of commitment and excellence in

care for children in our community. As this partnership grows, lives of children will be enhanced working with various agencies to meet their needs and giving them the opportunity to grow, develop and become strong men and women in our society.”

About ChildFirst Services, Inc.

ChildFirst Services Inc. (CFS) is a non-profit organization, whose mission is to provide individually based quality services to children, youth, and underserved populations with a goal “To Empower Families and Children to Build a Brighter Tomorrow.” ChildFirst Services Inc. (CFS) has over twenty years of experience in managing a network of group homes that are structured as family style homes. In the past two years, ChildFirst Services doubled the number of children served from 50 to 110, grew from 10 group homes to 18 group homes, and significantly increased its ability to handle youth with complex medical and behavioral issues. CEO, Dr. Nathaniel Williams heads ChildFirst Services; Dr. Williams grew up in foster care and carries with him a passion and vision for improving services to vulnerable children.

About Baptist Children’s Services, Inc.

Baptist Children’s Services, Inc. was founded in 1879 as the Baptist Orphanage of Philadelphia. The agency proudly celebrates 135 years of providing care to orphans, children and youth. The agency’s current mission is to provide quality residential care to adjudicated youth. Through guidance, education, and positive role-modeling, Baptist Children’s Services, Inc. assists homeless youth to achieve stability, health and wellness, and academic success. During the frigid winter of 1873 a little girl died, leaving behind her tiny savings of ninety cents that formed the beginnings of Baptist Children’s Services, Inc.

Contact

To learn more about the partnership, please contact:

Nancy McCullar, MSW

Deputy CEO

ChildFirst Services, Inc.

Office: 610-717-5706

FAX: 610-717-5740

nmccullar@childfirstservices.org

###