



CHRIS Kids, Inc. Press Release

CHRIS Kids, Inc
Hope Has a Home.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHRIS Kids CHRISal Ball™ 2008 Brings Hope and Homes to Local Children
Eighth Annual Gala Event Hosted by
Jovita Moore (Channel 2 WSB-TV) and Tad Hutcheson (AirTran Airways)

(Atlanta, GA) – July 9, 2008 – Jovita Moore of Channel 2 WSB-TV will emcee and Tad Hutcheson of AirTran Airways will chair the Eighth Annual CHRISal Ball™, raising funds for CHRIS Kids Inc.'s group homes for struggling children, community-based mental health clinic, independent living programs for youth aging out of foster care and homeless youth, and core services to families in crisis throughout metropolitan Atlanta, projected to serve more than 1,000 youth and family members in people in 2008.

This year's CHRISal Ball™ will take place at the Grand Hyatt – Buckhead on September 27th, 2008 starting at 7 PM and will feature well-known local jazz artist Kayla Taylor Jazz. Tickets cost \$225 per person and \$2,500 for a table of ten. Corporate sponsorships range from \$3,000 to \$25,000 and include numerous community relations benefits. < More >

Each year, CHRIS Kids, Inc. presents the prestigious CHRISal Vision Award to a dedicated individual and corporate partner. The awards this year are focused on women who have made a difference in the lives of children and youth. For 2008, The Circle for Children will receive this year's Corporate Award and noted author Ashley Rhodes-Courter will receive CHRIS Kids' Individual Award. This award is presented each fall to recognize outstanding leadership and service to the children, youth, and families in the State of Georgia with special emotional, residential and mental health needs.

To purchase tickets or tables, visit www.chriskids.org/NewsCHRISalBall.htm. To inquire about sponsorships, call 404-564-3411 or email dolly.fehd@chriskids.org.

About The CHRISal Vision Award

CHRIS Kids presents The CHRISal Vision Award each year to corporations and individuals who exemplify exceptional dedication to children, youth, and families in Georgia. Past recipients of the award, designed and donated by Tiffany & Company, include The Junior League of Atlanta, AGL Resources, AirTran Airways, Dee Simms (former Child Advocate of Georgia), Deloitte, Prudential, John Sherrill, Robert Harkey, Delta Air Lines and former Ambassador The Honorable Andrew Young.

About CHRIS Kids

Originally founded and managed by the Junior League of Atlanta and the Menninger Foundation as the C.H.A.R.L.E.E. project, CHRIS Kids' Inc. was created in 1981 to provide homeless children with residential treatment who could not function within the foster care system, focusing on a family living model in a residential environment and a neighborhood setting. Since March 1982, CHRIS Kids has expanded its services to eight group homes serving 75 children each year.

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The Independent Living & Rainbow Programs were founded in 2000 to provide residential services to runaway, homeless and emotionally challenged young adults ages 17-21 with a special outreach to sexual minority youth. The Keeping Families Together program was created in 1990 to provide assessment, treatment and basic human needs to families in crisis before the intervention of overburdened state welfare, juvenile justice and mental health systems.

Camp CHRIS, a nine-week summer, day-camp experience for children with severe behavioral problems, was founded in 1996 as the only camp in Georgia with a no-eject policy. In addition, the CHRIS Counseling Center was founded in July 1, 2007, and will serve thousands of children, youth and families with income-sensitive mental health and substance abuse treatment in the coming fiscal year (January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008). Future plans include the renovation of an apartment complex in the Graham Circle area, with the organization currently at 60% toward its \$5.5 million capital campaign goal, enabling CHRIS Kids to triple the number of youth served in four years.

CHRIS Kids is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children and is a member of the Child Welfare League of America. Throughout its recent history, it has received numerous awards for its commitment to excellence, diversity and innovation, including the 1998 Managing for Excellence Award from The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, Inc.; the Valuing Diversity Award from the United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta in 2002; the Phoenix Award in 2002, 2005 and 2006 from the Mayor's Office of the City of Atlanta; and the 2006 Techbridge Innovation in Technology Award from Accenture. CHRIS Kids, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization based in Atlanta. CHRIS Kids is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children and is a member of the < *More* >

Child Welfare League of America. To learn more about CHRIS Kids or to make a financial contribution, please visit www.chriskids.org.



**The Eighth Annual CHRISal Ball™ Sponsors
(as of 7/25/08)**

Corporate and Individual Sponsorships are still available.
Contact Dolly Fehd dolly.fehd@chriskids.org or 404-564-3411

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