



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 21, 2011

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New Directions and Crossroads Collaboration

Cuyahoga County, OHIO – New Directions and Crossroads have been participating in the Human Services Restructuring Pilot Program for the past year. The Board of Directors for New Directions and the Board of Trustees for Crossroads on January 19, 2011, and January 24, 2011, respectively, voted to approve the consolidation.

The consolidation is defined by: one (1) governing board; one (1) chief executive officer; and one (1) senior management team. The two organizations will remain separate entities in relation to their missions, 501(c) 3 status, accreditations, and donors.

“These are two outstanding organizations that provide excellent care and support services to young people and their families,” Denise San Antonio Zeman, co-chair of the Funders Collaborative, said.

Deborah Vesey, Collaborative co-chair, went on, “The goal of the Collaborative is to support the non-profit sector in seeking innovative ways to improve quality and effectiveness through strategic alliances. This collaboration is a wonderful outcome, and we wish New Directions and Crossroads continued success.”

“This creates a leadership plan for the future sustainability of both organizations. The services each agency provides will continue to be of the utmost quality,” said Mike Matoney, Chief Executive Officer of New Directions and Crossroads. “We are grateful to our Board of Directors and the foundation collaborative, without which this critical consolidation would not have been able to occur,” he said. “We appreciate the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County (ADAMHS) and the ADAMHS Board of Lake County for their unwavering support for this consolidation,” said Matoney.

Kim Fraser, Executive Director of the Lake County ADAMHS Board, says she sees the alliance between the two agencies as a positive step for behavioral health care in northeast Ohio. “Each of these agencies brings a wealth of experience, expertise, and great people to this new arrangement,” she said. “I’m excited because I think this will ultimately improve both the spectrum and the quality of services for youth across this region.”

William M. Denihan, CEO of the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County added, “We commend both organizations for taking this proactive step to reduce administrative cost and strengthen the viability of both organizations to continue the provision of needed services to youth and their families.”

New Directions has been providing services to adolescents and their families for 30 years. It is the only agency of its type in Northeast Ohio. Crossroads is a 40-year-old provider of behavioral health services to children and adolescents, primarily in Lake County.

The mission of New Directions is to provide quality life-changing treatment to chemically dependent adolescents and their families dealing with emotional, behavioral and psychiatric needs.

The mission of Crossroads is to promote the health and well-being of children, adolescents and their families by providing the highest quality, efficiently delivered, behavioral health services that are accessible, comprehensive and integrated within the community.