

## Press Release

*For immediate release March 22, 2007*

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### **JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES RECEIVES ACCREDITATION**

Michael E. Orlando of Fairfield County Job & Family Services is pleased to announce the agency has been accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA). COA is an international, independent, not-for-profit accrediting body for social and behavioral healthcare services. COA's mission "promotes best practice standards; champions quality services for children, youth, and families; and advocates for the value of accreditation".

COA accreditation attests that an organization meets the highest national standards and is delivering the best quality services to the community it serves. FCJFS is proud to join COA's Community of Excellence that includes more than 1,000 private and public organizations that serve over 6,000,000 children, individuals, and families in the United States and Canada.

The COA accreditation process involves an in-depth examination of the organization's compliance with best practice standards. The process includes a review of organizational standards including human resources, financial and risk management and continuous quality improvement as well as service standards in the areas of Child Protection, Adult Protective Services, Foster Care and Adoption.

"For the last eighteen months, the agency welcomed the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive review that provided an evaluation focused on nationally recognized benchmarks as established by other outstanding providers," stated by Michael E. Orlando, Director FCJFS. While the Final Accreditation Report noted excellence in all service areas, FCJFS is most proud of receiving superior ratings in areas of customer service, sound financial practices and organizational management. Michael Orlando added, "This outstanding achievement is a testament to the fact that the constituents of Fairfield County can rely on FCJFS to be a credible agency operating with integrity and always seeking to achieve the best possible while focusing on the needs of the community."