



Helping and Teaching Youth for Over 100 Years

**P.O. Box 161, Goshen Road
Litchfield, CT 06759
www.ctjuniorrepublic.org**

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CONTACT:

Hedy L. Barton
Director of Development
office: 860-567-9423
fax: 860-567-8127
home: 860-693-8635
email: hbarton@cjryouth.org

NEWS RELEASE

JUNIOR REPUBLIC ANNOUNCES NEW RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM IN LITCHFIELD

John F. Boyd, Executive Director of the Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR), announced today that the organization has been awarded a contract to provide a Residential Program for boys on its Litchfield Campus by the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) of the Connecticut Judicial Branch. The award was effective July 1, 2009.

The Junior Republic announced in January that it was closing its Department of Children and Families (DCF) Residential Program in Litchfield. At that time, Mr. Boyd and Charles E. Roraback, President of the Junior Republic's Board of Directors, indicated that the agency was actively exploring appropriate programs to be conducted on its Litchfield campus.

"It is very important to our Board and staff that any programs conducted on this campus be consistent with our organization's mission to provide care, treatment, education and family services to help young people become productive and contributing members of their communities," stated Mr. Roraback. "The new program we will be providing for the Judicial Branch fulfills this mission and will provide critical services for children from throughout Connecticut on our Litchfield campus," he noted.

The new Residential Program for 8 boys will provide a full complement of treatment, education, and recreational programs. All services will be "evidenced based" and "family focused." The program will employ 14 full time and 5 part time professional staff. Mr. Boyd indicated that the Judicial Branch will conduct comprehensive evaluations and risk assessments on all youth prior to placement. Only children and youth who have been deemed appropriate for CJR's Litchfield Residential Program will be placed.

In announcing the new program on the Junior Republic's Litchfield campus, Mr. Boyd stated that CJR is very pleased to be re-opening its residential program with the strong support and involvement of the Judicial Branch.

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“The Connecticut Junior Republic has a long history of providing community-based and residential services for children, youth and families in partnership with the Judicial Branch,” he said. “The Junior Republic has been providing a broad spectrum of programs for children and families in the Greater Waterbury, Danbury and Torrington areas in partnership with CSSD for many years,” he continued. “The programs we provide for the Judicial Branch range from early intervention and prevention services to intensive in-home therapy for youth and families, and residential care,” stated Mr. Boyd. “In providing these programs, CJR has developed a very strong professional relationship with CSSD, and we look forward to working with them as we expand our community-based and residential programs for children,” he said.

According to Mr. Boyd, boys in CJR’s new residential program will be provided their own certified teacher. All required educational services will be self-contained and designed to meet the educational needs of students on an individual basis. Mr. Boyd noted that CJR has also been expanding its Day Education Program on the Litchfield campus. In May, the Junior Republic was approved by the Connecticut State Department of Education to expand its program to serve 20 students. Mr. Boyd indicated that the educational services for the new residential program will be specifically tailored to meet students’ individual needs and will be provided separately from CJR’s growing Day Education Program.

Founded in 1904, the Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR) has provided residential and community-based care, treatment and education for troubled and at-risk young people for more than 100 years. Today, the organization’s combined programs serve nearly 1,000 boys and girls from communities throughout Connecticut. CJR operates group homes for boys in East Hartford and Winchester, a short term residential program for girls in Waterbury, and community-based programs serving boys and girls in the Danbury, Torrington/Northwest Connecticut and Greater Waterbury regions. Special, alternative and vocational education programs, as well as transitional services, are provided for boys on CJR’s Litchfield campus.

A private charitable organization, the Connecticut Junior Republic is accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA). CJR is supported by contributions from individuals, businesses and organizations, and through services funded by the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) of the Connecticut Judicial Branch, the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS), and by Connecticut’s public schools. For further information, please contact Hedy Barton, Director of Development and Public Relations (860) 567-9423; or by email: hbarton@cjryouth.org.