



Helping and Teaching Youth for Over 100 Years

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NEWS RELEASE

Connecticut Junior Republic Announces New Director of Programs

Litchfield –John F. Boyd, Executive Director of the Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR), has announced the promotion of Daniel W. Rezende, LCSW, to the position of Director of Programs, effective immediately. Mr. Rezende, who most recently served as Program Supervisor for CJR’s Waterbury Program, will oversee all programs and services conducted by the Connecticut Junior Republic in his new position. The Junior Republic operates a broad spectrum of residential and community-based programs in seven locations throughout Connecticut. Combined, these programs serve approximately 1,000 boys, girls and families each year.

Mr. Rezende brings more than 25 years of experience in providing social services for children and families to his new position as Director of Programs. He succeeds Nicholas Grippo, who retired earlier this month, following 17 years of service, 15 of which were in this position. Mr. Rezende’s past experience with the Connecticut Junior Republic includes positions of increasing responsibility within its residential and community-based programs. He is responsible for expanding the Junior Republic’s Waterbury Program from a single service for approximately 60 boys and girls to a flourishing, multi-location continuum of care serving approximately 700 children and families annually.

“Dan Rezende is recognized by CJR’s Board of Directors, members of our staff, the community and representatives from the many agencies we work with as a major force behind the Junior Republic’s successful growth and program diversification,” stated Mr. Boyd, in making his announcement. “Dan is highly respected for his ability to bring professionals and the community together to make services work for children, youth and families. His dedication, passion and commitment to the mission of the Connecticut Junior Republic are always present,” he continued.

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Mr. Boyd also praised Mr. Rezende for his strength-based managerial style and ability to maximize CJR's capacity for producing successful outcomes for the children and families it serves. "Dan has exceptional staff development skills and is personally invested in CJR's current programs," he said. "He also has the knowledge, creativity and expertise to meet the evolving and future needs of children, youth and families," he added.

Mr. Rezende earned his bachelor's degree in Applied Social Relations from Eastern Connecticut State University and a master's degree in Social Work from the University of Connecticut. A Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), he resides in West Hartford with his wife and daughter.

Founded in 1904, the Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR) has provided residential and community-based care, treatment and education for at-risk and troubled young people for more than 100 years. Today, the organization's combined programs serve approximately 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 transition and related services, are provided for at-risk and special needs 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 service contracts 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, extension 252; or by email: hbarton@cjryouth.org.