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NEWS RELEASE

Daniel Rezende to be New Executive Director of Junior Republic

Litchfield –Anne J. Fitzgerald, President of the Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR), announced today that the organization’s Board of Directors voted unanimously to appoint Daniel W. Rezende, MSW, LCSW, as CJR’s next Executive Director. Mr. Rezende will assume his new position effective April 1, 2012, following the retirement of John F. Boyd, who has served as CJR’s executive director since 1995.

Mr. Rezende, who currently serves as CJR’s Director of Programs, was selected as the result of an extensive search process conducted by a Search Committee comprised of members of CJR’s Board of Directors and headed by J. Thomas Bouchard, of Litchfield. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Bouchard was the Senior Vice President of Human Resources for International Business Machines Corporation (IBM). He also has held executive level Human Resource positions at other major American corporations including United Technologies Corporation (UTC), and U.S. West, Inc.

According to Mrs. Fitzgerald, the Search Committee has been conducting a thorough and deliberate review of qualified candidates for this position for many months. More than 170 individuals applied, with many selected for personal interviews. “Through this process, it became evident that Dan Rezende was clearly the most qualified to become our next executive director,” stated Mrs. Fitzgerald. “He has the experience in developing and managing residential and community-based programs across the state that the Board felt would be critical to the position, as well as a strategic vision for the organization, and the necessary contacts and knowledge of social services in Connecticut to translate this vision into reality,” she continued.

“Dan Rezende is recognized as a major force behind the Junior Republic’s successful growth and program diversification by CJR’s Board of Directors, members of our staff, the community and by representatives from the many agencies we work with,” stated Mrs. Fitzgerald.

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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, Wendy, and their daughter.

John Boyd, who will continue as executive director of the Connecticut Junior Republic through March 31, of next year, expressed enthusiastic support of the Board of Directors' selection of Mr. Rezende.

"Dan Rezende is highly respected for his ability to bring professionals and the community together to make services work for children, youth and families," he observed. "Dan's dedication, passion and commitment to the mission of the Connecticut Junior Republic are always present," he continued, "and his strength-based approach to working with youth and families and developing talent within the organization will be extremely important as CJR evolves and develops to meet the needs of those it serves," he stated. "I look forward to working with Dan to ensure a smooth transition of leadership for the Junior Republic and congratulate him on this well-deserved appointment," said Mr. Boyd.

Founded in 1904, the Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR) provides care, treatment, education and family support for at-risk, special needs and troubled young people so they can become productive and fulfilled members of their homes, schools and communities. Today, the organization's combined programs serve approximately 1,200 boys and girls annually in ten locations throughout Connecticut.

The Junior Republic conducts a residential program for court-referred young men on its Litchfield campus. Special, vocational and alternative education programs are provided for boys from communities throughout Connecticut in this location at CJR's Cable Academic and Vocational Education Center. Transition and related services are also provided.

CJR also provides residential care for boys at its group homes in East Hartford and Winchester and short-term, residential crisis intervention for girls at its Center for Assessment, Respite and Enrichment (CARE), which is located in Waterbury. A broad spectrum of prevention, early intervention, family support, and intensive home-based services, and aftercare, are provided for boys and girls through CJR's offices in Danbury, East Hartford, Meriden, New Britain, Torrington and Waterbury (two sites).

A private charitable organization, the Connecticut Junior Republic is accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). CJR is supported by gifts 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. Please note: A photograph of Mr. Rezende is available by request.