



November 6, 2009

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ##

**COMMON PATHS EARLY EDUCATION & CARE EARNS NAEYC ACCREDITATION**

Common Paths Early Education & Care (Common Paths) at Cerebral Palsy, Inc. (CP) has earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the world's largest organization working on behalf of young children.

“It is our goal to provide quality education and care, but also to give children the best possible early childhood experience while promoting their development,” said Mary Campbell, Common Paths’ director. “Throughout the ongoing accreditation process, we are able to assess what we are currently doing and implement on-going improvements, assisting us in providing the most nurturing and safe environment for the children who attend our program.”

Common Paths, an integrated child care, provides weekly care and a preschool learning environment for approximately 70 children between the ages of six weeks and seven years old. It is the mission of Common Paths to provide a quality child care program for children with special needs and their peers in an inclusive setting. The program provides opportunities for all children to interact with their peers and to grow by working, playing and developing personal relationships with each other, regardless of their differences.

To earn NAEYC accreditation, Common Paths voluntarily completed a comprehensive self-study process over the last several months, measuring the child care program and its services against the 10 NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards. Accreditation was earned upon completion of the self-study, and after an on-site assessment from NAEYC assessors ensuring that the program meets each of the 10 NAEYC program standards including curriculum, environment and leadership. During the five-year accreditation term, Common Paths will complete yearly evaluations and is also subject to unannounced visits.

For more than eighty years, the NAEYC has worked to raise the quality of programs for all children from birth through age eight. In 1985 the NAEYC accreditation system was established to set professional standards for early childhood education programs, and to help families identify high-quality programs.

**Cerebral Palsy Inc.** provides services for the people of Northeast Wisconsin to promote community involvement, inclusion, and to enhance the quality of life of persons affected by temporary or permanent physical, sensory, and/or speech needs or conditions. CP served more than 2,000 families in the past year.

Services provided include Birth to 3 and pediatric therapies, assistive technology, aquatic exercise, adult occupational therapy, inclusive child care, adult day services, vocational services and outreach services to people of all ages. For more information about Cerebral Palsy, Inc. visit [www.cp-center.org](http://www.cp-center.org) or call 920-337-1122.

###

**Media Contact:**

Claire Williams  
Cerebral Palsy Inc.  
920-337-1122 x1257  
cawilliams@cp-center.org

**Board of Directors**

Bill Micksch  
*President*

Sarah Griffiths  
*1st Vice-President*

LuEllen Oskey  
*2nd Vice-President*

Paul Snider  
*Treasurer*

Michael Koval  
*Secretary*

Martha Ahrendt  
Gary Allen  
Tom Apple  
Katie Clancy  
Hon. Marc Hammer  
Stephen Harkness  
Frank Hermans  
Tom Hinz  
Dr. Jennifer Hoyer  
Melissa Lemkuil  
Bert Liebmann  
Dr. Edward Lin  
Joan Malcheski  
Deb Mauthe  
Betsy Mitchell  
Paul Ninham  
Laurie Olson  
Kurt Rotherham  
Donald Salmon  
Steve VandenAvond  
Erin Van Zeeland  
Tom Walsh

**Executive Director**

Dale M. Barbiaux