Cornerstones of Care
Kansas City Named Among Twelve "Fast Cities to Watch"

Fast Company magazine has named Kansas City one of its twelve 2008 "Fast Cities to Watch" around the globe. Kansas City is in the company of global powerhouses including Beijing, Moscow, Barcelona and Abu Dhabi to name a few.

The magazine says this about Kansas City, " A $9 billion redevelopment is restoring downtown KC's shine with the new Sprint Center and Steven Holl's glorious expansion of the Nelson-Atkins Museum. This Missouri city also anchors a new animal-health corridor - a bovine Silicone Valley - that's home to more than 120 bioscience firms. The hope is that this old cow town's new spin will boost job growth and keep young people from seeking greener pastures."

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Cornerstones of Care
LEGISLATIVE DAY

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Please join Cornerstones of Care, the agency Presidents and senior administrative staff for Legislative Day 2008. This is a great way to get involved in the legislative process that will improve the services that Cornerstones of Care provides to children and families. The morning breakfast and scheduled meetings with our local representatives is designed to further the organization's goals and objectives which can be greatly enhanced through the active involvement of Board members.

Legislators hearing directly from our Board members about bills dealing with education and mental health services for the children and families we serve in our community is very empowering. Board member advocacy on behalf of Cornerstones of Care may result in funding opportunities for our programs and services. Board members who have attended in the past have been able to lobby their legislators for sound public policy in Missouri.

Cornerstones of Care has a long-standing commitment to advancing policy which is focused on the children of Missouri. We focus our advocacy efforts in three areas:

- **Child and adolescent mental health.** Cornerstones of Care advocates for public policy that respects the unique needs of Missouri's children by improving access, enhancing delivery, and expanding funding for childhood mental health services.

- **Child abuse and neglect.** Cornerstones of Care also advocates for public policy that highlights child abuse and neglect through awareness campaigns and expansion of funding for prevention-based services. Approximately 85% percent of the children in the care of Cornerstones of Care system have experienced some extent of abuse or neglect. The organization equips children, parents and caregivers with knowledge, skills and resources to help them end the cycle of abuse.

- **Accountability through licensure and accreditation.** Cornerstones of Care understands the importance of proper credentialing and state licensure of child and mental health agencies. Accredited organizations are held accountable for programs and services while maintaining a high level of care. Cornerstones of Care educates lawmakers, public policy committees and social service agencies about the critical role licensing plays in the health and well-being of children and families.

In the coming weeks we will provide background on the issues, Cornerstones of Care position, appointments with Cornerstones of Care staff will be scheduled with your representatives and talking points to help make your views clearly heard and understood.