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The Carl B. & Florence E. King Foundation Awards Grant to The Parenting Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Wednesday, January 9, 2013, Fort Worth, TX – The Parenting Center is pleased to announce that the Carl B. & Florence E. King Foundation has awarded a \$20,000 grant to support the agency's counseling program for low income children who have been abused or neglected. This investment will help bridge the gap between the amount that The Parenting Center receives to provide counseling to these children, and the cost to offer this valuable service. It will help provide approximately 250 counseling sessions to low income children who suffer from abuse or neglect.

In 2011, 5,888 children were confirmed as victims of child abuse and neglect in Tarrant County (DFPS, 2011). Shockingly, this is the second highest number of child abuse victims in the entire state of Texas. Low income families are the least able to afford counseling for their children, yet these children are disproportionately affected by child abuse and neglect; families with lower incomes are more likely to live in high-risk neighborhoods, have greater financial stress and have the least access to prevention and intervention based programs like counseling (Children's Bureau. 2003).

The Parenting Center offers one of the few counseling programs in Tarrant County that low income individuals can afford. Play Therapy, an evidence based method that allows children to express their emotions and feelings and relate their experiences through play, is the most common technique that The Parenting Center uses to treat abused and neglected children. The counseling this program provides for abused and neglected children is crucial to improve their chances of overcoming devastating consequences and growing up to be a healthy, happy adult.

The Parenting Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in Fort Worth, Texas with a mission of *providing professionals and family members with the tools, resources and services to build successful families*. Learn more about the agency at www.TheParentingCenter.org.

The Carl B. & Florence E. King Foundation is a private foundation located in Dallas, Texas. Inspired by the lives of Carl B. and Florence E. King, the foundation is committed to the betterment of individuals, communities, and society through informed, philanthropic giving. Learn more about the foundation at www.KingFoundation.com.