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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kids Hope United names new child development center director

CHICAGO (Oct. 23, 2007) — Esmilyn Johnson is the new director of Kids Hope United's Harris Child Development Center, 6200 S. Drexel Ave. Kids Hope United is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting children and strengthening families.

Johnson will manage the daily programs and operation of the day care center, ensuring the program maintains consistent quality and meets performance standards as outlined by state, city and federal regulations. Specific responsibilities include managing daily staffing needs and delegating responsibility; developing procedures and controls for food service, health and sanitation; maintaining a system that ensures enrolled families have accessibility to support systems such as mental health and speech services; and continually monitoring and evaluating educational programs.

Johnson previously served as the Early Head Start program coordinator for Chicago Commons, educational therapist/outreach worker for Thresholds Mothers' Project and head teacher for Childcare with Confidence.

She received her Bachelor of Science in child and family studies from the University of Wisconsin – Madison in 1999 and her Master of Education in Early Childhood Administration from National-Louis University in 2007.

Kids Hope United operates seven child development centers in Northern Illinois, offering programs that include early education, day care, after-school programs and Pre-K services.

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About Kids Hope United

Kids Hope United is a private human service organization dedicated to protecting children and strengthening families. Kids Hope United offers a diverse array of prevention, intervention and community-based programs. Kids Hope United also specializes in child welfare system management, reform, consultation and training. With principal offices in Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri and Florida, Kids Hope United serves more than 15,000 children and their families across the country each year. For more information, visit www.kidshopeunited.org.

