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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **New program director joins Kids Hope United**

**ORLANDO, Fla. (March 10, 2008)**—Kids Hope United has named William A. Jones as its newest program director in Orange County and interim senior vice president for Kids Hope United, District 7 (Orange and Osceola counties). In this role, he will be responsible for overseeing and ensuring seamless dependency services, recruiting and retaining licensed foster homes, and recruiting prospective adoptive parents.

Jones participates in several community organizations and councils, including the Osceola and Orange County Children’s Cabinets, the Osceola County Child Abuse Prevention Task Force, the One-Stop Concept Planning Team and the SAMSHA Grant System of Care Workgroup.

“Will brings a lot of great experience to Kids Hope United,” said Executive Director Marlin Livingston. “Both his work and volunteer experience proves just how dedicated he is to protecting children and strengthening families.”

Previously, Jones served as director of program operations for Children’s Home Society of Florida, where he provided oversight of more than 100 staff, program budgets and day-to-day operations. He also served as chief operating officer for Crosswinds Youth Services Inc. in Cocoa, Fla. Jones began his career as quality coordinator for Orange County Youth & Family Services, where he served in numerous positions, including senior program manager for administration and support.

Jones earned a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science in criminal justice from the University of Central Florida. He is a certified peer reviewer by the Department of Juvenile Justice and Council on Accreditation, and completed the Balanced Scorecard Training from the University of Florida.

Kids Hope United serves an average of more than 800 children in Orange and Osceola counties daily.

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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](http://www.kidshopeunited.org).

