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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kids Hope United celebrates the Week of the Young Child *Special events running from April 14 – 18*



Children at Kids Hope Child Development Center came to school in their silliest hats as they celebrated the Week of the Young Child.

CHICAGO (April 16, 2008)—Kids Hope Child Development Center, a program of Kids Hope United, is holding several events to celebrate the Week of the Young Child, which runs from April 14 – 18.

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the world's largest early childhood education association, with nearly 100,000 members and a network of more than 300 local, state and regional affiliates.

“The purpose of the Week of the Young Child is to highlight the needs of young children and their families and recognize the hard work of early childhood teachers and programs that meet those needs,” said Connie Acevedo, child development center director.

NAEYC first established the Week of the Young Child in 1971, recognizing that the early childhood years (birth – age 8) lay the foundation for children's success in school and later life.

Other events this week include a slumber party where the children come to school in their pajamas and with their favorite stuffed animal and an assembly where the children will sing, dance, tell stories and do other creative things they'd like to share.

Throughout the week, families are invited to draw pictures together on the large pieces of paper we will hang along the hallways.

Kids Hope Child Development Center is located at 5244 N. Lakewood Ave. in Chicago. Kids Hope United operates six child development centers in northern Illinois serving more than 1,000 children.

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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.

