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NEW MEMBERS JOIN LOCAL HEAD START ORGANIZATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

INDIANAPOLIS (October 12, 2006) – Family Development Services, which operates the federally funded Head Start and Early Head Start early childhood education programs in Indiana's Marion and Hamilton counties, announced the appointment of three new members to its Board of Directors.

The new members are:

- Erin Robertson, Director of Mortgage and Credit Services, Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership
- James Simpson, President and Managing Director, Financial Technologies and Management
- Stuart Sobel, President, Stuart Sobel Consulting, Inc.

With these additions, Family Development Services now has 17 members serving on its Board of Directors for 2006-2007.

"We are honored to welcome these committed civic and business leaders to our Board," says Diane M. Baker, executive director of Family Development Services. "Our Board provides vital direction and counsel to help support local Head Start programs, and we look forward to our new members contributing to our organization's educational and family-oriented initiatives."

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Family Development Services

Formed in 1996 and headquartered in Indianapolis, Family Development Services operates the Head Start and Early Head Start programs in Indiana's Marion and Hamilton counties. The organization provides early childhood educational programs and social services to more than 2,000 children and their families each year through 11 schools and service centers. Family Development Services' family support services include teen parent counseling, parenting skills programs, referrals for job training and employment counseling, health and nutrition services, fatherhood programs, literacy education, and childcare skills training.

Head Start, founded in 1965, is the country's largest early childhood education program and currently serves nearly one million children annually. In the past 40 years, Head Start has served more than 22 million children nationwide.

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