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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wilder Foundation wins 2009 SAMHSA Science and Service Award

National award recognizes Wilder's Incredible Years programs for young children and their parents

ST. PAUL, Minn. (October 28, 2009) – The Amherst H. Wilder Foundation announced today that it is a recipient of a 2009 Science and Service Award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Wilder received the award for its Incredible Years programs and is one of 27 organizations nationally to be recognized for “exemplary implementation of evidence-based interventions shown to prevent and/or treat mental illness and substance abuse.”

Wilder introduced Incredible Years to the community in 2004. The comprehensive, multi-faceted and developmentally-based curriculum is designed to promote emotional and social competence and to prevent, reduce and treat behavior and emotional problems in young children and their parents. The Incredible Years programs were developed by Carolyn Webster-Stratton, M.S.N., M.P.H., Ph.D., Professor and Director of the University of Washington’s Parenting Clinic.

Dr. Webster-Stratton will be the special guest at a reception to be held on Wednesday, November 4, 2009, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Wilder Center, 451 Lexington Parkway N., St. Paul. The celebration will honor Wilder staff and community partners involved in providing Incredible Years in the community. RSVPs are requested by October 30th at events@wilder.org or phone 651-280-2411.

“Wilder is proud to receive this prestigious award that recognizes innovative programming for kids and their parents,” said Wilder president Tom Kingston. “Very measurable outcomes show significant improvement for Incredible Years participants. This is an excellent example of how Wilder combines direct service and research to improve lives in the East Metro.”

Wilder implements the *Teacher Classroom Management Program* and the *Dina Dinosaur Classroom Curriculum* in its Child Development Center, a full-day early childhood care and education program. It also provides the *Dina Small Group Therapy Program* and the *Preschool BASIC Parent Program*. Training, coaching and consultation are offered to community agencies and childcare centers. In early 2010, Wilder will coordinate local training in the new *Parents and Babies* and *Parents and Toddler* programs.

Incredible Years was initiated through the Ramsey County Mental Health Collaborative Foundations for Success. It was funded for the first 5 years by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation as part of a county-wide system for Early Childhood Mental Health.

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About the Wilder Foundation

For more than 100 years, the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation has combined direct service, research and community development to address the needs of the most vulnerable people in greater Saint Paul. For more information on the Wilder Foundation, visit www.wilder.org

About SAMHSA

SAMHSA is a public health agency within the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The agency is responsible for improving the accountability, capacity and effectiveness of the nation's substance abuse prevention, addictions treatment, and mental health services delivery system. For more information, visit www.samhsa.gov

About Incredible Years

The Incredible Years Parents, Teachers, and Children Training Series has two long-range goals: to develop comprehensive treatment programs for young children with early onset conduct problems, and the development of cost-effective, community-based, universal prevention programs that all families and teachers of young children can use to promote social competence and to prevent children from developing conduct problems. To learn more, visit www.incredibleyears.com