



Creating circles of support for people with developmental disabilities and their families

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Community Support Services names Diane Farina White to serve as New President and CEO**

Community Support Services, Inc.  
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Brookfield, IL – Community Support Services (CSS) has selected Diane Farina White as their next President and CEO. White, currently Executive Director of Esperanza Community Services, will assume the role presently held by Interim President and CEO Kaye Masters on August 22, 2011

“Diane brings more than 20 years of leadership experience and is a respected leader in the field of the developmentally disabled. She shares our passion for serving individuals and will continue to build on the strong, family-oriented culture at CSS. Diane is the right CEO to lead the strategies we have in place,” said Gregory Mino, CSS Board Chairs.

“I look forward to joining CSS. I am fully committed to serving children and adults with developmental disabilities so they can reach their fullest potential toward a productive and independent life in the community,” said White.

As Executive Director of Esperanza Community Services, White was responsible for the operation of \$3.8M organization, a staff of 80, and five agency-owned properties in Chicago’s West Town and Old Irving Park neighborhoods. Despite the financial crisis and challenges in Illinois, she was able to increase their residential programming by 36% and start a new behavior program to increase clinical services to their clientele. She placed strategic emphasis on heightening Esperanza’s visibility, including a new branding strategy, a new website and comprehensive marketing plan that increased external communications.

Throughout her career, white has worked with diverse populations and communities. She has a solid understanding of the challenges facing community organizations in the State of Illinois. White shares the Board’s positive perspective on the opportunities we can all create by working together to ensure individuals with developmental disabilities receive the services they need to be active, independent and contributing members in our communities.

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**Community Support Services Mission Statement:**

Community Support Services, Inc., is a private, not-for-profit service agency that initiates, provides and promotes services for people with developmental disabilities and their families, within their communities, in order to strengthen their independence, self-esteem, and ability to participate in and contribute to community life. The Cicero location is The Beth Lacey Center for Family Support, at 5416 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Cicero. The Chicago Canine Club, LLC, is a full service canine boarding, daycare, grooming and training facility that also operates a vocational training school for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

The search for CSS’ President/CEO was led by Tuft & Associates, a Chicago-based Executive Search Firm, with the support of a seven-member volunteer search committee.