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The Johnson Foundation and Racine Collaborative Recognize National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day

RACINE, Wis. (May 8, 2014) – In connection with their current work to improve children's mental health care in the Racine community, <u>The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread</u> and the <u>Racine Collaborative for Children's Mental Health</u> are recognizing <u>National Children's Mental Health</u> Awareness Day.

"Healthy children are a cornerstone of community well-being and vitality, and this national awareness day serves as a reminder of the work to be done," said Ashley Staeck, Senior Community Program Associate at The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread. "We applaud the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for establishing this day, which provides communities with a valuable sounding board for elevating issues and practical solutions for improving children's mental health."

National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day is a public awareness and support strategic initiative by SAMHSA, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The effort aims to raise awareness about children's mental health and the significant impact positive mental health has on a child's development.

This year, 1,100 communities and 136 organizations throughout the nation will host their own community-oriented events to celebrate the day and promote positive development for children and families.

In recognition of Children's Mental Health Awareness Day last year, The Johnson Foundation launched the <u>Heroes For Health</u> online series to spotlight members of the Racine Collaborative for Children's Mental Health and the work they do for children in the community. The Foundation has been showcasing heroes over the past year and has today rolled out the final hero profiles. These spotlights will remain on the Foundation's <u>website</u> as a public resource.

For more information on the Johnson Foundation and the Racine Collaborative for Children's Mental Health, visit: www.johnsonfdn.org/aboutus/community/ChildrensMentalHealth.

The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread is dedicated to serving as a catalyst for change by bringing together leading thinkers and inspiring new solutions on major environmental and regional issues. For additional information or to learn more about The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread, please visit www.johnsonfdn.org.