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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Centers is adding Cleveland Christian Home to its corporate structure to become a powerful organization ready to serve families from infancy through adulthood

CLEVELAND, OH— November 14, 2022 - The Board of Directors of The Centers and Cleveland Christian Home (CCH) have merged two of Greater Cleveland’s most experienced and skilled social service organizations. The new structure will help The Centers expand access to the full continuum of behavioral health services for children and adolescents and will bring much-needed infrastructure support to the CCH.

The first project under the new structure is in development. In September, Cuyahoga County approved a proposal from The Centers and allocated emergency funding to provide housing for the youth who have been temporarily housed at the Division of Children and Family Services Jane Edna Hunter Social Services Center on Euclid Avenue. Work has begun with the goal of admitting the first residents, a group of eight youths aged 12 to 18, to a CCH unit under conversion.

“This type of project – which brings innovative thinking and deep expertise to intractable problems faced by many communities throughout the country – is just one example of the impact and change we believe our organizations can have by working together,” said Eric L. Morse, The Centers President and CEO. “While the State of Ohio and Cuyahoga County are making significant investments to address these issues, including Medicaid’s new program, OhioRISE, the statewide crisis involving children in custody and children involved in multiple systems, makes this the right move at the right time. Together, we can offer a full range of services.”

“The inclusion of CCH into our corporate structure is aligned with our strategic plan objective of expanding access to behavioral health for children, adolescents, and families. Growth in this manner is an effective way to meet targets – and most importantly, to help families in need,” said Lisa B. Forbes, The Centers’ Board Chair. It is anticipated that CCH will grow from 10 employees to more than 60 employees while adding entirely new programming to The Centers’ suite of services. The Centers employs nearly 550 employees in Cuyahoga County.

“The demand for the services provided by CCH is only going to increase, and through this structure, we will be able to provide additional integrated behavioral health and social services to those we serve,” said Charles Tuttle, CCH Chief Executive Officer.

“As an organization with only a \$6 million budget, we were necessarily limited,” said Ethan Boron, CCH Board Chair. “Now, we see a future where we can increase our impact, and recruit and hire skilled staff while maintaining adequate resources to focus on operating a complex business in a competitive and highly regulated



environment. Above all, we want to make sure we can continue the mission of CCH and assure that the services we provide remain available to the community we serve.”

“We welcome the opportunity to work side-by-side with the highly talented and dedicated CCH team,” said Morse. “Together, we will have a greater impact than either of our agencies could have on its own. Now, together, we’re both committed to building on our legacies to ensure that families in crisis are provided the very best residential care for children who have been through the most intense trauma situations imaginable.”

About The Centers

The Centers fights for equity by healing, teaching, and inspiring individuals and families to reach their full potential. Our integrated model coordinates health and wellness services, including primary care, behavioral health care, addiction services, HIV treatment, in-house pharmacies, and dental, along with family support programs, including early childhood development, career training, and job placement. The organization is one of the oldest and largest nonprofit organizations in Northeast Ohio, serving more than 20,000 people annually in our community. Visit TheCentersOhio.org to learn more.

About Cleveland Christian Home

The Cleveland Christian Home has been caring for children and families for over 120 years. Founded as an orphanage in 1900, CCH has evolved into a secular non-profit organization that specializes in the treatment of difficult and at-risk children, youth and their families. Its residential treatment programs provide 24 hour a day, seven day a week care and support, including medical, therapeutic, and educational services.

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