

HowardCenter

A decorative graphic consisting of a thick, textured teal line that starts on the left, dips down, then rises to form a wide, shallow arch that spans across the top of the page, ending on the right.

June 21, 2010

Release: Immediate
Contact: Gail Rosenberg, 488-6912, gailr@howardcenter.org

Pine Forest Children's Community Transfer to Take Place in August

HowardCenter is pleased to announce that Pine Forest Children's Community will continue to offer quality childcare programming under the operations of Pine Forest Inc., a newly formed non-profit. The transfer will be effective as of August 31, 2010.

In February, HowardCenter announced the decision to transfer operations of Pine Forest to a yet to be identified organization. According to Catherine Simonson, Director of HowardCenter Child, Youth & Family Services that has overseen the operation of Pine Forest, "We would have been faced with closing the center by the end of August if a viable plan by a new organization could not be identified. We are excited to have this wonderful solution."

A Transition Team, composed of representatives from HowardCenter leadership and Pine Forest families and staff, was immediately formed. A Request for Proposals was distributed to interested parties. The proposal submitted by Pine Forest Inc. was identified as the plan that was most closely aligned with the mission and values of HowardCenter.

Pine Forest Children's Community is NAEYC accredited and is 5-star (highest level) rated under the State of Vermont STARS rating program.

Simonson said, "We are happy to work with Pine Forest Inc. to assure that the South End of Burlington will continue to be served by a childcare center with a capacity to care for 75 children and their families."

#####