

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dana Manners
Child Abuse Prevention Center
(714) 955-6580
DManners@BrightFutures4Kids.org

MDRT FOUNDATION SUPPORTS THE CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION CENTER

Orange, CA – December 7, 2006 – The Child Abuse Prevention Center, located in Orange, has built its reputation around innovative in-home prevention programs for families at-risk of abuse. Recently, the Prevention Center was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Million Dollar Round for Family Pathfinders, a program that matches a Prevention Center social worker with a volunteer community organization to provide outreach to those in need.

Prevention Center advocate, Thomas L. Thorkelson of Newport Beach, secured the grant on the agency's behalf. Thorkelson, a 45-year member of the MDRT, has been an active supporter of the Prevention Center for over 10 years and guided the agency through the application process in support of their Family Pathfinders Program.

The MDRT Foundation, the philanthropic arm of The Premier Association of Financial Professionals, was created in 1959 to provide MDRT members with a means to give back to their communities. Since its inception, the Foundation has donated \$15.3 million in 63 countries around the world. The majority of these funds were raised by MDRT members from MDRT members. Some of the organizations that have benefited from MDRT Foundation Grants are: Make-A-Wish Foundation, UNICEF and Habitat for Humanity.

In the last year alone, the Prevention Center has helped over 17,000 children and 6,400 families. By taking a preventative approach, the Prevention Center can provide an entire year of services for an average cost of \$2,400, as compared to \$4,800 each year for foster care, and up to \$72,000 for a year for emergency or group home care. By investing effort upfront in “at-risk”

families, the cycle of violence in the home is stopped. Not only is prevention-based service a cost-effective method for our community, but it is the most compassionate service that can be provided to ensure that children will not suffer the devastating effects of abuse.

Since its inception, the Child Abuse Prevention Center has provided critical child abuse prevention and family support programs to over 165,000 at-risk children and families in need. Its prevention programs are designed to intervene early in the cycle of abuse, help families access critical healthcare services, and ensure that children are raised in a healthy, nurturing and safe home environment. *One child at a time, one family at a time, we are improving the health and well being of families, building stronger communities, and preventing child abuse.* For additional information, please visit the Prevention Center's web site at www.BrightFutures4Kids.org.

###