



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Oakland Family Services is awarded national mentoring grant
to help peer organizations meet emerging needs**

Pontiac, MI – Oakland Family Services was awarded a 12-month \$18,500 grant by the national membership organization Alliance for Children and Families to serve as a mentor to a peer organization in providing services to older adults.

Oakland Family Services has been providing mental health services to older adults and support services to their caregivers, both professional and familial, for more than 20 years. The agency was recently awarded a three year grant from the Department of Health and Human Services to provide in-home mental health and substance abuse services to isolated, home-bound older adults.

“This grant enables Oakland Family Services to share our expertise and help strengthen the profession,” said Michael Earl, CEO of Oakland Family Services. “We are proud to have this opportunity to help guide a peer company in meeting this tremendous challenge.”

The grant is part of the New Age of Aging, a major five-year initiative designed to help prepare human service organizations to better serve older adults, as well as utilize their many skills through volunteerism or professional assistance. The \$2.6 million New Age of Aging initiative is funded by The Atlantic Philanthropies.

Through the mentor program, New Age of Aging matches agencies such as Oakland Family Services with other organizations interested in doing more to prepare for the rapidly increasing population of older adults. Armed with the Atlantic grant, the Alliance and its members will develop leadership the social and human service workforce can use to address the needs, desires, and contributions of older adults.

The Alliance for Children and Families, which will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2011, is a nonprofit national membership association of private, nonprofit human service providers, including Oakland Family Services, in the United States and Canada. More information about the Alliance is available at alliance1.org. For more information on the New Age of Aging, contact Ann Koerner at akoerner@alliance1.org or 414-359-6562.

Oakland Family Services is a private, nonprofit, human service agency that provides **prevention, education, support and treatment programs** to families and individuals throughout Oakland County and southeastern Michigan. For more information about Oakland Family Services or our services for older adults, please contact Micheline Sommers at (248)858-7766 ext 246 or visit us on the web at oaklandfamilyservices.org