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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pat's Place Child Advocacy Center Earns Re-Accreditation

Charlotte, NC (June 20, 2012) – Pat's Place Child Advocacy Center has been awarded re-accreditation by National Children's Alliance following an extensive application and site review process. Accreditation is the highest level of membership with National Children's Alliance and denotes excellence in service provision by a Child Advocacy Center (CAC).

CACs must undergo a strict re-accreditation process every five years to ensure that best practices are continually being applied. Re-accreditation reflects Pat's Place's commitment to providing care through evidence-based practices. CACs respond to allegations of child abuse in ways that are effective and efficient – and put the needs of child victims first.

Since inception, Pat's Place has assisted over 2,000 children affected by sexual abuse throughout Mecklenburg County. Pat's Place Child Advocacy Center relies on the support of foundations, individuals, businesses and our community partners to be able to develop and expand our programs to ensure each child who walks through our door is provided the best medical treatment, emotional support, and family guidance.

“Pat's Place is to be commended for its continued commitment to effectively serve victims of child abuse. As the national association and accrediting body for Children's Advocacy Centers across the country, our goal is to ensure that every victim of child abuse has access to high quality services that result from professional collaboration. By requiring Accredited Centers to undergo re-Accreditation every five years, we ensure that evidence-based practices are being implemented and the highest quality of service is being provided,” remarked Teresa Huizar, Executive Director of National Children's Alliance.

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Pat's Place CAC is the only child advocacy center in Mecklenburg County serving children from birth to age 18, Pat's Place provides a physical environment where a child's well-being is our first priority, reducing trauma and promoting healing from sexual abuse. Pat's Place is named in memory of Patricia "Pat" Wolfe, a tremendous child advocate for the Charlotte community who passed away on May 7, 2000 after over 30 years of social work service. For more information about Pat's Place CAC, visit www.patsplacecac.org.

National Children's Alliance is a national association dedicated to helping local communities respond to allegations of child abuse in ways that are effective and efficient and put the needs of child victims of abuse first. As the accrediting body for the over 700 Child Advocacy Centers around the country, National Children's Alliance provides training, financial support, technical assistance, leadership, national advocacy and access to current research findings on a national level to children's advocacy centers around the country as well as numerous developing centers, multidisciplinary teams and child abuse professionals. As the national authority on multidisciplinary approaches to supporting child victims of abuse, the purpose of National Children's Alliance is to empower local communities to provide comprehensive, coordinated and compassionate services to victims of child abuse. www.nationalchildrensalliance.org.