

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 4, 2011

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**THE CHILDREN'S HOME EXPECTS OVER 300 VOLUNTEERS
FOR CAMPUS MAKEOVER PROJECT**

TAMPA – AUGUST 4, 2011 – The outcry of support from the Tampa Bay community when The Children's Home announced its need for a Campus Makeover in July has been extremely humbling. With significant decreases in funding and donations over the past few years, creating a warm and home-like environment on The Children's Home residential campus, has become an increasing challenge. In addition, the wear and tear of nearly 100 rambunctious children every year, has taken its toll.

While the 50 children currently living at The Children's Home are away at summer camp, over 300 volunteers made up of donors, supporters, professional service companies and individuals eager to lend a hand, are expected to invade the campus for three days to paint, trim trees, decorate, move in new furniture, linens for the beds, and much more. "This project is something that satisfies a number of improvements needed on our residential healing campus, while truly providing a 'hands on experience' for the community to create a warm-inviting home environment for our kids," said Merrill Stewart, Interim Director of Development. "We can't wait to see the excitement on these kids' faces when they return from camp and have been very humbled by the generosity of so many."

Without the support of the community and the following businesses / individuals, the Makeover Project at The Children's Home would not be possible. **A special thank you to:** Bay Area Apartment Association, B&G Painting, Buddy's Home Furnishings, Captrust Financial Advisors, Carolyn Cooley/The Community Foundation, College Hunks Hauling Junk, Creative Multi-Care, Davey Tree, The Sprouts of Promise Foundation, FIS Global, Greystar Property Management, Home Depot, HSN, Idlewild Baptist Church, Marblelife, Monet and Merlot, Phelps and Dunbar, LLP, Porter Paints, Providence Painting, Publix Super Markets, Revealing Truth Ministries, Safelite Auto Glass, Target, The South Tampa Auxiliary, The Tampa Tribune, The UPS Store, Water Boy, Whirlpool Appliances.

Join us and lend a hand on one of the project dates below or help welcome the children home at our BIG REVEAL!

To schedule media coverage or interviews, please contact Merrill Stewart at (813) 864-1536 or mstewart@childrenshome.org.

Makeover Date(s)/Time(s): August 8th, 9th and 10th from 9:00a.m. – 6:00p.m.

The Big Reveal: August 11th from 1:30p.m. – 3:00p.m. (children will return at 2:00p.m.)

BEST MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES (Monday, August 8th, Wednesday, August 10th or Thursday, August 11th)

Location: The Children's Home, Inc. at 10909 Memorial Highway, Tampa, FL 33615

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About The Children's Home, Inc. (www.childrenshome.org)

The Children's Home, Inc. is an accredited, community supported, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that has operated child and family-centered programs in the Tampa Bay area for 119 years. It is accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) and serves nearly 12,000 children and adults each year through its programs and services. Was recently named the 2011 Non-Profit of the Year in the category of Crisis Resources and 2004 Non-Profit of the Year by the Tampa Bay Business Journal, the WEDU Be More Award[®] 2005 Non-Profit Organization of the Year and the WEDU Be More Award[®] 2008 Community Foundation of Tampa Bay Community Spirit Award.