



UMCH Family Services

UMCH Family Services Names Beth Gerber Director of Wesley Family Services

Child welfare agency taps respected veteran to head outpatient mental health program

Worthington, OH, March 14, 2012 – UMCH Family Services, formerly United Methodist Children’s Home, named Beth Gerber director of Wesley Family Services, outpatient mental health care.

Gerber will be responsible for the daily operation and management of the agency’s outpatient family mental health program offering those in need help through community, school and aftercare programs.

Most recently, Gerber served as associate director and director of senior services for Jewish Family Services. Spending nearly two decades at the organization, she provided clinical leadership. In addition, she led the expansion of childhood development early intervention programs, domestic violence prevention and intervention, resettlement for refugee populations including the Somali Bantu population, and care for homebound seniors among other programs. Prior to this, she spent nearly a decade at the Nationwide Children’s Behavioral Services as coordinator of its social worker home-based, family-centered program.

“UMCH Family Services is thrilled Beth is joining our team as her life’s work aligns nicely with our mission of putting families together and keeping families together,” said Sean Reilly, Executive Director, UMCH Family Services. “One hundred years ago, we began as an orphanage. Today, we have gone from being the ‘home’ for children to being ‘homes’ for children ... providing homes through our Treatment Foster Care; finding homes through Adoption; and strengthening homes through Outpatient Family Mental Health Services. Our Wesley Family Services is a key component and we are excited about the future under Beth’s leadership.”

Wesley Family Services’ community program provides outpatient mental health to the community at large for families whose children are experiencing difficulties and seek or need professional help. School-based programs provide treatment and support for youth struggling with non-academic issues in the classroom. And, aftercare services help with family reunification between children and families when children are discharged from out-of-home placements. At present, the program serves more than 250 children with one or more problems including anxiety, mood issues, ADHD and disruptive behaviors which affect their ability to be successful in school. Working in schools across central Ohio, the program has a concentration of services in Whitehall, Reynoldsburg and Westerville Schools.

Beth is a Licensed Independent Social Worker who received her Bachelor of Science in Special Education from Penn State University and her Master of Social Work from The Ohio State University. She resides in Columbus.

About UMCH Family Services

UMCH Family Services, nationally accredited by the Council on Accreditation and certified by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and the Ohio Department of Mental Health, is a ministry of West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church. With a team of highly qualified and caring professionals dedicated to providing every child the best possible opportunity to reach full potential, major program areas include adoption, treatment foster care and family mental health services. For more information, visit www.UMCHOhio.org

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