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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **TLC NAMES THERAPEUTIC PRESCHOOL PROGRAM FOR THE KIWANIS CLUBS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

**Rockville, MD, June 4, 2004** – The Treatment and Learning Centers, a non-profit organization that helps typically developing children and children and adults with a wide range of disabilities, announced the renaming of their therapeutic preschool program as The Kiwanis Clubs of Montgomery County, Maryland Interaction Group. The renaming is in recognition of the Kiwanis Clubs' continued support of young children with disabilities at TLC. The Kiwanis Clubs of Montgomery County have contributed over \$150,000 in 24 years to support TLC's services to children through annual events held exclusively to benefit TLC. TLC would also like to acknowledge the Kiwanis Capital District Division 17 members who played an integral part in renaming the program: Ray McFarlane, Lieutenant Governor, Bernard Gardiner, Distinguished Past Lieutenant Governor, Charles Falck, Distinguished Past Lieutenant Governor, and Betty Gardiner, President Kiwanis Club of Wheaton.

"On behalf of the Boards of Trustees, we applaud the Kiwanis Clubs of Montgomery County for their unsurpassed support for many years of our programs and services", said Richard Pavlin, Executive Director at The Treatment and Learning Centers. "TLC is honored to name our therapeutic preschool program for an organization whose first priority is to assist young children in need."

The therapeutic preschool program at TLC is for children with speech-language and occupational therapy needs that affect how they interact and communicate with others. A licensed and certified occupational therapist and speech-language pathologist leads the group with an assistant. An individualized treatment plan addresses each child's needs by his/her own interest including their sensory and learning preferences as themes to enhance attention and participation during individual, small and whole group activities. Facilitated play is used to foster children's engagement, communication, and problem solving.

### **About the Kiwanis International Capital District Division 17**

Kiwanis Clubs Organization were founded in 1915 and is headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana. Later Kiwanis went international and now hosts 13,000 clubs in 79 countries with a total membership of close to 600,000 members. It is a thriving organization of service and community-minded men, women and youth who focus on children and families in need worldwide.

Projects linked to the "Young Children: Priority One" program include pediatric trauma, safety, childcare, early development, infant health, nutrition and parenting skills. Other service projects include; promoting literacy, responding to disasters, helping the elderly, supporting drug abuse control, medical research and aiding individual persons in need.

Kiwanis initiates its activity to "Make the World a Better Place to Live" early in the development of young minds through its K-Kids Clubs in Elementary Schools, Builders Clubs in Middle Schools, Key Clubs in High Schools and Circle K Clubs in Colleges. (Total membership - 300,000) To foster community interaction and self esteem building for the adults living with disabilities Kiwanis hosts Aktion Clubs. To learn more about this cause contact your local Kiwanis Club or Kiwanis International at 317- 875-8755, 1-800-Kiwanis or [membership@kiwanis.org](mailto:membership@kiwanis.org).

### **About TLC**

The Treatment and Learning Centers, located in Rockville, Maryland, enables children and adults to develop to their full potential, to communicate effectively with others, and to achieve educational and vocational success. TLC provides services that strengthen their abilities and respond to their changing needs. With over 50 years of service to the community, TLC is committed to integrity and excellence in our care and will strive to assist all, regardless of their ability to pay. For more information call 301-424-5200 or visit [www.ttlc.org](http://www.ttlc.org).

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