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**For Immediate Release:**

## **CHNK Receives \$1.5M Grant for Substance Use Disorder Treatment**

### ***Kentucky State Officials Scheduled to Present Award in Person***

Covington, KY – Kentucky State Attorney General Jack Conway and First Lady of the Commonwealth Jane Beshear will be in Northern Kentucky on Thursday morning to present Children's Home of Northern Kentucky with a \$1.5 million grant award. The grant, made possible through the KY Kids Recovery Grant Program and the Substance Abuse Treatment Advisory Committee (SATAC), will allow the Home to expand its services to include substance use disorder treatment.

"Children's Home of Northern Kentucky develops services to respond to community needs regarding abused, neglected, and at-risk youths. Right now, the need is around youth and the epidemic of addiction," explains Chief Executive Officer Rick Wurth. "This grant will enable us to launch new treatment lines and further expand the type of behavioral health treatment we're already providing through our residential treatment program and the school/community-based *Champions* program."

According to a 2011 survey by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 5.2% of Kentucky high school students reported using heroin; this was nearly double the national average, and by the time the students reached their senior year, it jumped to 7.7%. Locally, Boone, Kenton, and Campbell Counties account for over 60% of the state's heroin prosecutions according to the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy.

The KY Kids Recovery Grants were made possible after Attorney General Conway settled cases against two pharmaceutical companies; settlements totaled \$32 million, and court orders required that \$19 million be earmarked for statewide adolescent substance use disorder treatment. Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear then established the SATAC to oversee the distribution of those funds. The grant awarded to CHNK will provide, in part, the first residential treatment facility in Northern Kentucky that is targeted specifically towards youth battling substance abuse and chemical dependency.

Attorney General Conway and First Lady Beshear will join Wurth on the front lawn of CHNK's Covington campus at 11 a.m. on September 4 for the award presentation. Members of the CHNK Board of Trustees and Junior Board, as well as the Home's employees, will also be in attendance.

"Thanks to the efforts of Governor and Mrs. Beshear, as well as to the diligent work of State Attorney Jack Conway, Children's Home of Northern Kentucky can pivot more quickly from the planning stage to the actual treatment of adolescents battling addiction in the Commonwealth," shares Wurth. "Their efforts, joined with the Substance Abuse Treatment Advisory Council, have effectively cut through layers of bureaucracy and have literally put children and adolescents as first priorities during an epidemic of heroin and other drug use. CHNK is proud to be one part of a comprehensive plan to aid Kentucky families and youth during this critical period."

Founded in 1882, Children's Home of Northern Kentucky operates two campuses – one in Burlington, KY and the other in Covington, KY. CHNK carries out its mission to be a community leader providing children and families opportunity and hope for better lives by offering residential and community-based treatment programs for abused, neglected, and at-risk children. Last year, the Home impacted



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over 400 children and families in 36 counties across the Commonwealth. CHNK is a member of the Children's Alliance, Kentucky's voice for at-risk children and families.

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For more information about Children's Home of Northern Kentucky, please visit [www.chnk.org](http://www.chnk.org) or contact Rick W. Wurth, Chief Executive Officer, at 859.292.4177 or 859.468.5418.