



*****PRESS RELEASE*****

For Immediate Release: February 9, 2011

For more information, contact:
Liz Dupont-Diehl, VP Development, 203.667.5956

Fathers for Life Honored with State Certification: Mark of Quality, Effectiveness

HARTFORD – A Bridgeport program for non-custodial parents was one of six programs re-certified for excellence at a ceremony in Hartford.

Fathers for Life, a program of Career Resources in Bridgeport, helps non-custodial parents reconnect with their children and build positive relationships with their children and families. Participants show better results in paying child support, spending time with their children, and parenting and life skills.

It was one of six programs re-certified by the John S. Martinez Fatherhood Initiative of Connecticut at a January 31 ceremony including Department of Social Services Commissioner Michael Starkowski, as well as officials from the state's Support Enforcement Services division, Department of Correction, Commission on Children, and partner agencies. Four other agencies were certified for the first time.

“This is really about the kids,” said Doug Edwards of Real Dads Forever, one of the partners involved in the certification process. “In Connecticut we have reached out to all relevant agencies to bolster the ability of fathers to set up kids for success.”

CRI's Fathers for Life was one of the first programs to be certified by the state, meaning it meets strict standards of quality and accountability. Meetings are Tuesday evening and by appointment. For information please call (203) 953-3256.

As the operator of the One Stop Center in Bridgeport and other programs, Career Resources serves 15,000 job seekers annually with job search assistance, computer labs and internet access, job posting, career coaching, training, and other services. Other Career Resources programs include STRIVE attitudinal job readiness training, ReEntry Works for former offenders, Adult Basic Education and GED Preparation, and specialized job placement for mature workers and those with disabilities. For more information, call 203 634 6601 or visit us at 350 Fairfield Ave. in Bridgeport or www.careerresources.org.

###



Pictured from left, standing: CRI Assistant Vice President of Operations Heriberto Cajigas; Fathers for Life Instructor Malik Williams; Vice President of Development Liz Dupont-Diehl; President/CEO Scott K. Wilderman. Seated from left, Fathers for Life Instructor Javier Santiago and Vice President of Hartford Operations Anne Carr.