



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Child Development Institute and Integra Foundation to Join Forces to Improve Children's Mental Health Services in Toronto

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**TORONTO, March 31, 2014** –Child Development Institute (CDI) and Integra Foundation have entered into an agreement to merge, bringing together two accredited children's mental health agencies in Toronto.

CDI offers a broad range of mental health services for children, youth and families. Integra is a smaller organization exclusively serving children and youth with mental health issues and learning disabilities (LD/MH). Both CDI and Integra believe that the merger will provide the children and families currently served by both agencies access to a larger variety of services under the leadership of a single agency.

Following the merger, Integra's existing programs will be delivered by existing staff under the umbrella of CDI. Integra will become a niche CDI unit, to be known as "**INTEGRA, Powered by the Minds at CDI**", which will now include the minds at Integra. CDI's existing programming will remain unchanged.

"CDI and Integra share a similar reputation for service excellence, evidence-informed programming and program evaluation," said Janet MacPhail, President, CDI Board of Directors. "Integra's programs will complement CDI's programs and we believe the proposed merger will provide more treatment options for clients. We look forward to welcoming Integra's staff, supporters and partners to CDI."

"We are so pleased to have confirmed this important partnership with CDI," said Arthur Heinmaa, President, Integra Board of Directors. "We believe our clients will continue to access the highly-individualized services and clinical expertise they've come to depend upon at Integra, but with the added backdrop of a more stable funding structure and more powerful advocacy. This is a major step forward for children and youth with mental health issues and learning disabilities and their families."

The closing of the merger is subject to a number of conditions precedent, including, among other things, approval of the members of CDI and Integra and governmental approvals.

Integra will continue to operate its programs and services from its offices at 25 Imperial Street. These programs include Individual and Family Counselling, the Social Competence Group Program, Mindfulness Martial Arts, Young Warriors, the Triple P Positive Parenting Program and Community Education and Engagement. Within CDI, Integra will also continue to run Camp Towhee, a residential therapeutic summer camp program for children and youth with learning disabilities and related psychosocial difficulties (LD/MH) in Haliburton, Ontario.

### **About Child Development Institute**

CDI is an accredited children's mental health agency providing a range of programs and services for children ages 0-12, youth ages 13-18, and their families in Toronto. We offer evidence-based programs across three streams: Early Intervention Services, Family Violence Services and Healthy Child Development. Our approach is family-focused and we work with each child and family's unique strengths, needs and challenges. For more information, please visit [www.childdevelop.ca](http://www.childdevelop.ca)

### **About Integra Foundation**

Integra is an accredited children's mental health agency based in Toronto that provides mental health services to children and youth aged 8 to 18 years who have diagnosed LD/MH. As the sole agency to specialize exclusively with this LD/MH clinical population, Integra tailors established, evidence-informed practices (EIP) to a child's particular learning profile, and develops and evaluates innovative new EIPS, with a vision of sharing emerging best practices more broadly. Our services are designed to strengthen the entire family, and like CDI we believe that the family can be the most valuable resource for children and youth. For more information, please visit [www.integra.on.ca](http://www.integra.on.ca)

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