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The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network Honors Missouri Preschool with Mariel C. Furlong Award

FAIRFAX, Va. (April 1, 2010) – The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN) has selected a St. Louis preschool as a recipient of a Mariel C. Furlong Award for Making a Difference.

St. Stephen ECD & Preschool, an allergy-friendly program, won the award in the School category. This school is specifically designed to cater to the medical needs of children diagnosed with allergies and asthma.

“Many children with asthma and allergies are not able to attend regular early childhood development programs due to their risk of life-threatening reactions to certain foods or due to air quality conditions,” said Jamie Bandy, who nominated St. Stephen for the award. “St. Stephen ECD & Preschool provides a safe environment for these children.”

The annual Mariel C. Furlong Awards for Making a Difference were created in 1996 to honor individuals and corporations who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to make a difference in the lives of individuals with food allergies. The awards are named after Mariel Christine Furlong, daughter of FAAN’s founder, Anne Muñoz-Furlong.

This year’s recipients were recognized for their involvement in increasing awareness and education associated with food allergies in four categories: Community Service, Food Industry Representative, Health Professional, and School.

“We applaud St. Stephen ECD & Preschool for everything it has done to ensure that children with food allergies are protected,” said Julia Bradsher, CEO of FAAN. “The awareness level at this school is remarkable, and we hope that other schools take note.”

Presentation of the awards began at FAAN’s Food Allergy Conferences in Maryland on March 27 and will continue at upcoming conferences in Nevada (April 24), New York (May 8), and Illinois (May 22).

ABOUT FAAN

Founded in 1991 by Anne Muñoz-Furlong, the Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN) is the world leader in information about food allergy, a potentially life-threatening medical condition that afflicts approximately 12 million Americans, or one out of every 25. A nonprofit organization based in Fairfax, Va., FAAN has approximately 27,000 members in the U.S., Canada, and 58 other countries. It is dedicated to increasing public awareness of food allergy and its consequences, to educating people about the condition, and to advancing research on behalf of all those affected by it. FAAN provides information and educational resources about food allergy to patients, their families, schools, health professionals, pharmaceutical companies, the food industry, and government officials. For more information, please visit FAAN at www.foodallergy.org, www.faankids.org, and www.faanteen.org.

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