

June 17, 2008

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Metropolitan Family Service Opens Community Coordination Office in Gresham**



*Metropolitan Family Service Executive Director, Krista Larson (left), and Chief Operating Officer, Judy Strand (center) welcome Gresham Chief of Police, Carla Piluso (right) to an open house event at the new MFS office in Gresham.*

Portland, OR—June 17, 2008— Metropolitan Family Service held an open house for community partners on Friday, June 13, 2008, at its new office in Gresham. The event was an opportunity to introduce programs that Metropolitan Family Service provides in the Gresham and East Multnomah County area. Collaborative community partners from Mt. Hood Community College, Human Solutions, Gresham-Barlow School District and the City of Gresham attended the event at 500 NW 20<sup>th</sup> Street in Gresham.

Metropolitan Family Service provides many services in Mid and East Multnomah County including:

STRENGTHENING  
FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS  
WHILE ENHANCING  
THEIR PARTICIPATION  
IN COMMUNITY LIFE

- After school programs Schools Uniting Neighborhoods (SUN) and Children and Family Enrichment (CAFÉ) offered at 16 elementary and middle schools.
- Physical education programs through the Reynolds Activity Project (RAP), offered to students at Alder, Davis, Glenfair and Hartley elementary schools.



# Metropolitan Family Service

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- School linked academic support programs and case management for youth age 12-17, through the Services for Educational Success (SSES) Program
- Mentoring services to children in Dexter McCarty and Gordon Russell middle schools through a new Face to Face project.

Metropolitan Family Service has expanded its services in Gresham and East Multnomah County in response to growing needs in the community. Population growth, rapidly increasing poverty and more families with language and cultural barriers are some of the challenges that Metropolitan Family Service is addressing. Projects and programs are operated at community sites such as schools and community centers to offer easy access to area residents. The new office will provide administrative office space for program managers and coordinators, and space for planning meetings with community partners.

## **Background Information**

About **Metropolitan Family Service (MFS)**: For more than half a century, Metropolitan Family Service has played a vital role in the lives of children, families, and older adults. We provide services at more than 160 sites, including more than 80 schools. Metropolitan Family Service makes connections that strengthen the lives of 30,000 individuals and families each year.

For more information contact Pat Kaczmarek, Marketing and Communications Manager at 503.232.0007 ext.170. You can visit our website at [www.metfamily.org](http://www.metfamily.org).

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