



For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE: JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Contact: Elaine M. Shepard, Director of Marketing and Development May 2007
Robert D. Marmor, Executive Director
(413) 737-2601 – www.jfswm.org

Good Morning Fund Announces Adoption Award Recipients

SPRINGFIELD, MA – The Good Morning Fund in conjunction with AdoptionLink (the adoption program at Jewish Family Services of Western Massachusetts) is pleased to announce the 2007 Good Morning Fund recipients – Martin and Julianne of Southamptton and Tom and Tracey of Chicopee. Martin and Julianne are the proud parents of a son and a daughter who recently arrived home from Ethiopia; Tom and Tracey are awaiting the referral of their child from Korea. Each family receives a \$5,000 check from the Good Morning Fund to offset their adoption fees, which can exceed \$30,000.

“This generous gift will allow us to do exactly what all adoptive parents would do in an ideal world – spend unlimited time bonding with their children,” said Martin and Julianne. “Being parents is the most rewarding and fulfilling aspect of our lives. It is our greatest wish to add to our family. One day we hope to be in the position to be able to help another family in our position,” said Tom and Tracey.

The presentation to the families is May 21st, at 5 p.m. at the AdoptionLink offices. Presenting the checks on behalf of The Good Morning Fund is President, David Vermette and Michael Charland, Board member. Susan Phillips, AdoptionLink Director and Robert D. Marmor, Executive Director of Jewish Family Service of Western Massachusetts will be present with the families.

The Good Morning Fund, established to honor the late Dr. Peter Charland, is a non-profit charity whose goals include raising the community’s awareness about adoption, helping make adoption affordable for families of modest means, and promoting wholesome family life. Dr. Charland dedicated his life to assisting children and

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Hampshire/Franklin County Satellite: 16 Armory Street, Northampton, MA 01060, (413) 582-6790, Fax (413) 582-6758



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All families who have a completed adoption application on file with JFS's AdoptionLink Program are eligible to apply to the Good Morning Fund. Awards are based on financial need.

AdoptionLink, the premier adoption program in western Massachusetts, is currently working with 90 families. AdoptionLink is a nationally accredited, licensed agency that offers domestic and international adoption, home study and post-adoption support services. AdoptionLink has been serving children and families regardless of race, sexual orientation or religion since 1967. In addition, AdoptionLink offers counseling and services to pregnant teens and women.

The Good Morning Fund Inc. will hold its 2nd Annual fundraiser, *The Family Challenge*, to continue raising money for additional adoption grants. *The Family Challenge* culminates with a Family Field Day at Sports World in East Windsor, CT on Saturday, June 9, 2007 from 11am-2pm. The field day, which is complementary to family teams who choose to raise at least \$100 in *The Family Challenge*, is also open to any family with an interest in adoption. The admission fee is \$25.00. The field day includes lunch, entertainment, field day games and activities. The Family Field Day will be held rain or shine, as this event is being held at the modern indoor Sports World complex.

The Family Challenge is a unique fundraising concept developed by The Good Morning Fund. Through *The Family Challenge* families can spend quality time together doing any number of activities listed on the Good Morning website (www.thegoodmorningfund.com) while raising money through family/friends/donor support to unite children with adoptive parent(s).

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"We are really looking forward to this year's fundraiser. Families who participated last year enjoyed completing the family activities. This year's field day celebration at Sports World will make the experience even more memorable. We are hoping that people who have been touched by adoption and those who would like to help to unite children with a 'forever family' will support this event," said Michael Charland, Vice President, The Good Morning Fund. Working with Michael Charland on the Good Morning Fund Board of Directors is David Vermette, Betty Charland, Pat Gootzit, Mark Cohen, Andrea Charland, Heath Durocher, and Susan Phillips.

To learn more about this event, register, or make a tax-deductible donation, visit The Good Morning Fund at www.thegoodmorningfund.com

For more information about AdoptionLink, please call (413) 746-2027, or visit the website: www.AdoptionLinkNow.org.

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