



AFCBB Association of Family Cord Blood Banks

Contacts: Tanya Peebles
213-369-7746
media@familycordbloodservices.com

Erin Mayer
310-496-5693
emayer@familycordbloodservices.com

Dr. Charles A. Sims of California Cryobank's Family Cord Blood Services Named to National Stem Cell Advisory Council

Sims to Represent Association of Family Cord Blood Banks

Los Angeles, January 23, 2008 – Family Cord Blood Services, a subsidiary of California Cryobank, today announced that its co-founder and medical director Charles A. Sims, MD, has been appointed to the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Advisory Council on Blood Stem Cell Transplantation (ACBSCT). Through his appointment, Dr. Sims will represent the Association of Family Cord Blood Banks (AFCBB), an organization representing the family cord blood banking industry that advocates matters of public policy, regulation and the development of industry standards by accrediting organizations.

Established to advise the Secretary of HHS and Administrator of HRSA on activities of the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory (NCBI) Program, the ACBSCT is composed of 23 members serving as Special Government Employees. In addition to Dr. Sims, members include representatives of marrow donor centers and marrow transplant centers, recipients of bone marrow transplant and cord blood transplant, hematology and transfusion medicine researchers with expertise in adult blood stem cell, and members of the general public.

Dr. Sims is a board certified pathologist, laboratory director and has served as chief of pathology at Century City Hospital, Los Angeles. He has a broad understanding of cord blood banking and sperm bank development and operations. Prior to founding Family Cord Blood Services and California Cryobank, he served as laboratory director of a large national independent referral laboratory, and was the founder of Quantum Clinical Laboratories, Inc. Dr. Sims earned his medical degree from Loma Linda University and is certified by the American Board of Pathology in Anatomical and Clinical Pathology. He is also a member of numerous professional organizations including the American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Society for Cryobiology, The American Association for Advancement of Science, College of American Pathologist (Fellow) and American Society of Clinical Pathologist (Fellow).

"I am honored to join the ACBSCT and to represent the AFCBB," says Dr. Sims. "On behalf of the AFCBB, we are excited about the recent advancements in cord blood stem cell medicine and are eager to further educate both expectant parents and physicians about the benefits of cord blood banking." Dr. Sims' term is scheduled to continue through January 2010.

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Dr. Charles Sims/FCBS
HRSA Advisory Council
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The first ACBSCT meeting will be held January 28 and 29 at the Hilton Washington DC/Rockville Executive Meeting Center, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. The meeting will be open to the public; however seating is limited and pre-registration is encouraged. A registration form is available on the HRSA's Program Web site at <http://bloodcell.transplant.hrsa.gov/>.

Association of Family Cord Blood Banks

The Association of Family Cord Blood Banks (AFCBB), an organization representing the family (private) cord blood banking industry, serves as the voice and advocate in matters of public policy, regulation and in the development of standards by accrediting organizations. The association believes that the foundation of public and private cord blood banking rests upon education of both expectant parents and physicians and upon informed consent. The organization aims to promote education of expectant parents; support the development of a strong system of public cord blood banks to make cord blood stem cell transplants available to all who need them; support cord blood stem cell research and to realize its promise in regenerative medicine; foster the adoption of ethical and responsible business practices by its members; and encourage voluntary accreditation of private cord blood banks. The AFCBB requires its members to comply with all applicable governmental agencies and to be accredited by the AABB, FACT or an equivalent and recognized accrediting organization. The association's Web site is <http://www.afcbb.org/>.

California Cryobank

Founded in 1977, California Cryobank Inc. (CCB) is a full service sperm bank and offers the industry's largest and most diverse donor catalog, including open donors. Accredited by the American Association of Tissue Banks, CCB is also licensed in every state where required, including New York and California; licensed by Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments; and in full compliance with all relevant Food and Drug Administration regulatory requirements. CCB is the only sperm bank to offer a Sibling Registry, and a reputation for quality and caring has made it one of the foremost reproductive tissue banks in the world.

Founded in 1997, Family Cord Blood Services (FCBS), a subsidiary of California Cryobank, Inc., is an umbilical cord blood processing and repository company. FCBS is accredited by the American Association of Blood Banks and offers stem cell processing and storage for families throughout the United States and worldwide. The Web site is www.familycordbloodservices.com.

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