

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Little City Celebrates Becomes Points of Light Certified Service Enterprise



"Less than 15% of organizations nationwide can be characterized as a Certified Service Enterprise." said Shawn Jeffers, Little City Executive Director. "As one of ten non-profit organizations to participate and complete the training, we are very proud to have been recognized by the distinguished Points of Light. The ultimate benefit is that for every \$1 we invest in volunteer engagement, we can expect \$3-\$6 in return."

Points of Light is the world's largest organization dedicated to volunteer service working in

30 different countries and coordinating over 250,000 service projects per year. They help mobilize millions of people to take action on the causes they care about and have Service Ambassadors that include Kevin Bacon, John Oliver, Laura Ling, Dikembe Mutumbo and Lauren Bush Lauren.



L to R: Shawna Egan, Director of Governmental Affairs, Catrina Johnson, Manager for Volunteer Services, both from Little City, Chris Smith from HandsOn Suburban Chicago, Shawn Jeffers, Little City Executive Director.

Studies show that Service Enterprises are more adaptable, sustainable and capable of scaling their impact in comparison to peer organizations and, as a result, are able to more effectively deliver on the social mission of their organization.

Little City training was provided by HandsOn Suburban Chicago, the only licensed service enterprise training hub in Illinois and an affiliate of Points of Light.

According to Catrina Johnson, Little City's Manager of Volunteer Services, "The recognition by Points of Light is a tribute to the extraordinary efforts of our incredible volunteers who so generously give their time, talent and treasure to Little City. They not only help our staff and elevate our entire organization, many needed projects would simply not get done without them."

For more information contact Larry Heisler at <u>lheisler@littlecity.org</u> or 847-221-7825.

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About Little City

For more than 50 years, Little City Foundation has developed innovative and personalized programs to fully assist and empower children and adults with autism and other intellectual and developmental disabilities. With a commitment to attaining a greater quality of life for Illinois' most vulnerable citizens, Little City actively promotes choice, person-centered planning and a holistic approach to health and wellness. Little City's ChildBridge services include in-home personal and family supports, clinical and behavior intervention, 24/7 residential services and special needs foster care and adoption. Little City's LifePath Adult Services offers a variety of residential options, employment opportunities, home-based services, case management, day supports, Special Olympics, an awardwinning Center for the Arts and more. The organization is an open, therapeutic 56-acre community located in Palatine, Illinois with offices in Schaumburg and Chicago. Visit <u>www.littlecity.org</u>.