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For Immediate Release

COLEMAN ANNOUNCES MEMBERS OF NEW YOUTH BOARD

KENT, Ohio (January 10, 2012) Coleman Professional Services is announcing its first ever Youth Board. An initiative of the CPS Board of Trustees, the Coleman Youth Board will bring together students from Kent, Ravenna and Stow high schools and middle schools. The Youth Board's purpose includes learning about and better understanding mental illness and its prevalence, and creating anti-stigma programs to share at their schools. With mental illness affecting one in four adults, one in six adolescents and one in 10 children, fostering understanding and compassion and decreasing stigmas and misinformation is important for all ages.

CPS Board Member and Kent Stanton Middle School counselor, Laurie Knuth, explained to the new Coleman Youth Board members and their parents, "We are hoping that this youth board will be proactive in busting the stigmas that surround mental illness, educate our youthful population about types of mental illness that we see in the schools and help show them that help is available. We would like to stop the cruelty that is often directed towards youth suffering from mental illness."

The Youth Board members submitted applications and recommendations. "The group selected for this board is a wonderful mix from the three targeted school systems," Linda Walker, CPS Board Member and Coleman Youth Board Chairperson said. "Their enthusiasm is exciting and I feel that not only will they be learning from us, but we will be learning from them as well."

The 2011 – 2012 Coleman Youth Board members are: Katie Bridgewater, Hayley Chlad, Erin Mackanos, Sean Martin, Taylor McWilliams-Woods, and Emma Sampson from Kent Roosevelt; Lexi Carlson, Hannah Face, Lindsey Patterson, Gillian Seibel, and Claire Stacey from Kent Stanton Middle School; Laura Castiglione, Jereme Maffei, Shelby Mrazik, and Llewesha Perry from Ravenna High School; Brittiany Andears, Christine Halasz, Maggie Marten and Suzanna Moyer from Stow-Munroe Falls High School. Members of the Coleman Professional Services Board of Trustees who are serving on the 2011-2012 Coleman Youth Board committee are: Linda Walker, chairperson, Sabrina Christian-Bennett, Laurie Knuth and Julie Spalding.

Coleman Professional Services is a nationally recognized, not-for-profit provider of behavioral health and rehabilitation programs that improve the lives of individuals, families and businesses in Ohio. The company relies on an Enterprise Business Model to diversify its funding. Its social enterprises and Coleman Foundation provide nearly 25 percent of revenue to support the company's award-winning clinical services.

Coleman Professional Services Youth Board – 2011 - 2012



Back Row: Claire Stacey, Lexi Carlson, Gillian Seibel, Maggie Marten, Shelby Mrazik, Jereme Maffei, Christine Halasz, Brittiany Andears, Suzanna Moyer, Katie Bridgewater

Front Row: Lindsey Patterson, Emma Sampson, Erin Mackanos, Taylor McWilliams-Woods, Laura Castiglione, Llewesha Perry, Sean Martin, Hanna Face

Not Pictured: Hayley Chlad

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