



Patrick E. Brookhouser, M.D.  
DIRECTOR

Contact: Brooke Wittrock  
Manager, Marketing Communications  
(402) 498-6640  
brooke.wittrock@boystown.org

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**Immediate Release**

## Boys Town Institute for Child Health Improvement Commitment to Kids Honored

Omaha, NE—The Boys Town Institute for Child Health Improvement has been selected to receive the Family Voices' *Mary Clarkson Professional Partner Commitment to Kids Award*, honoring their dedication to support children with special needs and their families.

"It is so important that children with special health care needs receive their health care through a medical home," said Thomas F. Tonniges, M.D., FAAP, Director of Boys Institute for Child Health Improvement. "We work with clinicians to actively embrace partnerships with families and other professionals who are important to the lives of children in the community."

Boys Town Institute for Child Health Improvement works with families and partners in the community to improve access to health care services and health care quality by providing care through a medical home. Supporting the Boys Town mission to strengthen children and families through life-changing care, the Institute has brought several model healthcare programs to the Omaha area: Professional Parent Consultants in the Medical Home, where parents of children with special health care needs are hired and trained to help with care coordination and provide family support in the pediatric practice; and Foster Care Clinics, where children in out-of-home placement receive routine healthcare, and treatment for specific identified conditions, and health education to help them become more independent and responsible in managing their personal health.

"The recipient is someone who has a caring concern for children and families, a willingness to seek out or respond to the concerns of families of children and youth with special health care needs, including valuing parent leadership in the workplace and interceding or standing on principles in support of children and families." said Sophie Araq-Nguyen, Ph.D., Executive Director of Family Voices.

Boys Town Institute will be presented with the *Commitment to Kids Award* at the Family Voices Awards Reception on Sunday, February 13, 2011, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC.

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Family Voices is a national non-profit organization that aims to provide family-centered care for all children with special healthcare needs and their families. For more information about this organization, visit [www.familyvoices.org](http://www.familyvoices.org).

555 North 30th Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68131  
(402) 498-6511

14000 Boys Town Hospital Road  
Boys Town, Nebraska 68010  
(402) 778-6000

[boystownhospital.org](http://boystownhospital.org)

**Saving Children, Healing Families**