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NEWS RELEASE – Lucy Daniels Center to Host National Symposium on Adoption

Cary, NC - The Lucy Daniels Center will host The National Alliance for Analytic Schools annual symposium on November 6–8, 2009. This symposium has traditionally been hosted by the Hanna Perkins Center in Cleveland, OH, the first psychoanalytic therapeutic school for children of its kind in the United States. This is the first time the symposium has been held at another location. Registration is open to professionals and graduate level students in the field of mental health with particular interest in working with children.

At the symposium mental health and early childhood experts will discuss how adoption can impact early emotional development and the challenges adopted children may face at home and in the classroom. Drawing upon a wide range of expertise and backgrounds, clinicians with psychoanalytic perspectives and therapeutic teachers will share their experiences working with young adopted children and present ways of understanding and helping these children to achieve social and emotional mastery in a variety of settings and contexts.

Guest presenters include:

Paul Brinich, Ph.D., who was first introduced to the psychic vicissitudes of adoption by a patient he saw while training at the Anna Freud Centre in the 1970s. He continued his clinical work, research, and publications on adoption while serving on the faculties of the University of California at San Francisco, Case Western Reserve, Duke, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Kristin Beasley has an M.A. in Early Care and Education and a B.S. in Child Development. She has nearly completed her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology with a Parent/Infant Mental Health Specialization. Kristin advocates for organized change in the childcare system, especially for infants and toddlers. Currently, she is the Hanna Perkins West Early Mental Health Coordinator and provides consultation to two perinatal substance recovery programs in Fresno, California.

Candi Houghton has a B.A. in Management and Organizational Development and an M.A. in Early Care and Education. She co-created and coordinated a comprehensive, collaborative delivery system of services for children, families and child care providers called LEADS (Limitless Early Access and Delivery System) in Fresno County. She currently works in California for Hanna Perkins West Center as the ECE Coordinator.

In addition, the Center will welcome program directors and teachers from sister therapeutic schools in addition to Hanna Perkins, including the Allen Creek Preschool in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and The New School in the Heights in Houston, Texas. For more information visit www.lucydanielscenter.org. Continuing Education credits can be provided through the NC Psychoanalytic Society.

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About the Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood:

The Lucy Daniels Center, founded in 1991, is devoted to promoting the healthy emotional development of young children. It is the largest and most comprehensive agency providing children's mental health services in North Carolina's Triangle region. The Center serves children up to age 11 who have behavioral or social difficulties or show signs of emotional problems through mental health assessments, family counseling, and therapy in both one-on-one and classroom settings. The staff of more than 25 social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, psychoanalysts, and educators offers individualized care for each child and family.

For more information, please visit www.lucydanielscenter.org