



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HINCKS-DELLCREST CENTRE WELCOMES PROVINCIAL BUDGET INVESTMENT
One in five Canadian children suffers from mental health problem**

Toronto, ON, March 30, 2011 – Yesterday’s provincial budget announcement of new funding for child and youth mental health is welcome news for The Hincks-Dellcrest Centre, a non-profit children’s mental health centre serving children and families throughout Toronto.

“One in five children suffers from a mental health problem, making this a critical issue for Ontario families,” according to Calvin Younger, Board Chair of The Hincks-Dellcrest Centre. “We’re grateful that the province has recognized the mental health needs of children and youth in our community and across the province.”

Yesterday’s announcement by Finance Minister Dwight Duncan will support child and youth mental health with \$257 million in new funding over three years. Thousands of children, youth, and families will benefit from allocations of \$76 million this year, \$88 million in 2012/2013, and \$93 million in 2013/2014.

“This is a much-needed investment in our services and supports for infants, children, youth, and their families,” says Younger. “We look forward to working with the government to ensure that young people get the mental health services they need to lead healthy, productive lives.”

One in five Canadian children suffers from a mental health problem, but only one in five of those children receives the help they need. Untreated mental health problems can result in family crisis, school disruption, or even suicide. Since problems can become more severe if not treated early, an investment in child and youth mental health treatment offers the best chance for a positive outcome.

About The Hincks-Dellcrest Centre

The Hincks-Dellcrest Centre is a non-profit children's mental health centre offering a comprehensive range of mental health services to infants, children, youth, and families. Each year, more than 8,000 children and families are helped through a variety of prevention, early intervention, outpatient, and residential treatment programs.

In addition to helping children and their families, The Hincks-Dellcrest Centre prepares the next generation of mental health professionals with training and education in child and youth work, nursing, psychiatry, psychology, social work, and early childhood education. Hincks-Dellcrest Centre researchers also examine the causes of children's mental health problems and evaluate new treatment methods.

The Hincks-Dellcrest Centre is partially affiliated with the University of Toronto and is accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services. More information is at www.hincksdellcrest.org.

MEDIA CONTACT: **Caroline Horcher, Communications Manager**
 The Hincks-Dellcrest Centre
 (416) 972-1935, ext. 3244 or chorcher@hincksdellcrest.org