



February 1, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CAROLINE HOUSE RECEIVES GRANT FROM
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

BRIDGEPORT, CT - Caroline House is pleased to announce it has received a \$15,000 donor-advised grant from the Fairfield County Community Foundation. This grant will be used to support English as a Second Language (ESL) and life skills classes for women as part of the Mother and Child Literacy Program.

The Mother and Child Literacy Program provides free literacy education and support services to economically-disadvantaged families in the Bridgeport area. The program consists of ESL and life skills classes for women. While mothers attend classes, their preschool children receive school-readiness instruction in a nurturing environment. School-age children attend tutoring after school and in the summer. The children strengthen academic skills and build self-esteem. Over 200 women and children are served per year.

“We are most grateful to the Fairfield County Community Foundation and its donor support of our Mother and Child Literacy Program,” said Peg Regan, SSND, Executive Director of Caroline House. “This grant will help provide essential student and classroom needs. In the informal setting of Caroline House classes, a sense of community grows as students share common struggles, joys and hopes for the future. Women attend classes to improve their own lives and the lives of their children. This grant enables us to continue to expand and improve this vital program.”

The Fairfield County Community Foundation promotes the growth of community and regional philanthropy to improve the quality of life throughout Fairfield County. Individuals, families, corporations and organizations can establish their own charitable funds or contribute to existing funds focused on specific areas of need or communities in Fairfield County. The Foundation also provides philanthropic advisory services, and develops and leads initiatives to tackle critical community issues. It is in compliance with the Council on Foundations’ national standards for community foundations. The Foundation has awarded over \$151 million in grants to nonprofits in Fairfield County and beyond. For more information, visit www.fccfoundation.org.

About Caroline House - Caroline House is a nondenominational education center located on the East Side of Bridgeport. The center was founded in 1995 by the School Sisters of Notre Dame. The Caroline House mission is: *To enable women and children to reach the fullness of their potential through education in English language and life skills.* To learn more about Caroline House and ways to support its educational programs, contact Cyndie LaMastra at 203-334-0640, clamastra@thecarolinehouse.org, or visit www.thecarolinehouse.org.

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