

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE, A PARTNER IN *ROC THE FUTURE*, BEGINS FREE SCREENINGS FOR CITY OF ROCHESTER THREE-YEAR-OLDS

Rochester, NY – Children's Institute launched its GROW program with the goal of screening all three-year-old children in the city of Rochester to address potential health and developmental concerns prior to enrolling in school. This initiative is part of *Roc the Future's* collaboration with 50 community agencies to support children from cradle to career. Screenings are free and will be completed by trained professionals at child care centers and schools across the city.

Each child will be screened in vision, hearing, speech, social and emotional development, dental health, and physical development. If issues are identified, parents will receive information and support regarding use of programs and resources available in the community. These screenings are in addition to children's visits with their physician. With parent permission, screening results will be shared with their health care provider. Over the next three years, screenings will impact approximately 2,400 young children and provide important information to parents and teachers in order to support what each young child needs to reach his/her full potential.

Roc the Future helped secure over \$750,000 in funds for GROW-Rochester. Initial funding was provided by the Greater Rochester Health Foundation, City of Rochester, Rochester's Child, and United Way of Greater Rochester.

Children's Institute is a national not-for-profit organization based in Rochester, NY that works to strengthen children's social and emotional health. Through sound research and evaluation, the organization develops and promotes effective prevention and early intervention programs, materials, and best practices for children, families, schools, and communities. Children's Institute is affiliated with the University of Rochester and has served the community for over 50 years. For more information on this program or Children's Institute, visit www.childrensinstitute.net/programs/grow-rochester.

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