



First Children's Finance Names Five New Board Members

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MINNEAPOLIS (October 22, 2007) – First Children's Finance, a national leader in financing child care, today announced that Gregory Ellison, Dalynn Hoch, Kathleen McCartney, H. Melvin (Mel) Ming, and Roger Neugebauer have been elected to its national Board of Directors. The five new Board members represent institutions and stakeholders that are key to FCF's mission of "helping children thrive and learn by forging relationships that bring economic power and viability to the business of child care."

Gregory Ellison, Certified Public Accountant, is managing partner of Banks, Finley, White & Co., Atlanta, one of the largest minority-owned and among the top 25% of all CPA firms in America. Mr. Ellison served as a member of the board and treasurer for Families First, a family and individual counseling agency in Atlanta specializing in adoption, foster care and assistance to young mothers.

Dalynn Hoch is an audit partner in the Minneapolis office of KPMG LLP, a member of the 2007 KPMG Partnership Council and a national instructor for insurance and methodology training courses. She is also a member of the Envision Excellence Campaign Committee for Northwestern College and a volunteer mentor in her community.

Kathleen McCartney is dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Education in Cambridge, MA. A nationally recognized scholar on child development, she is a principal investigator of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Study of Early Child Care and Youth Development.

H. Melvin (Mel) Ming is chief operating officer for Sesame Workshop in New York City. He has held senior executive positions with public television stations and at National Public Radio. He is also a Certified Public Accountant and spent his early business career with Coopers and Lybrand.

Roger Neugebauer has published *Exchange – The Early Childhood Leaders Magazine*, a management magazine for directors of early childhood programs since 1978. Based in Redmond, WA, he is the founder of the World Forum on

Early Care and Education and has served on the NAEYC and NACCRRRA boards and on the advisory board of the landmark *Cost, Quality, and Child Outcomes in Child Care* study.

“These outstanding leaders from the business community, academia, and the early care and education field will be valuable additions to our national board as we carry on with our strategy of improving outcomes for children by investing in the business and management capacity of the early care and education field,” said Gerald Cutts, President and CEO of First Children’s Finance. They will join existing members of First Children’s Finance’s distinguished Board of Directors, a list of whom can be found at

www.FirstChildrensFinance.org/Board_of_Directors.

First Children’s Finance is a national nonprofit organization which makes loans and provides business assistance to the early care and education field. Headquartered in Minneapolis, the organization is active in Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, Missouri, Texas, and Michigan.

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