FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UWM Conference Sheds New Light on Autism in Urban Communities

MILWAUKEE, October 13, 2010 – Autism experts from throughout the Midwest will convene in Milwaukee for the Autism Knows No Boundaries conference, Nov. 3-4, at the UWM School of Continuing Education (SCE), 161 W. Wisconsin Ave.

Autism now affects 1 in 110 children nationwide, including 1 in 70 boys. These numbers reflect a 57% increase from 2002 to 2006, and a 600% increase in the past 20 years. The statistics include those living in urban communities who often face additional challenges including lack of treatment access, crime, poverty and racial disparity.

"At this conference, we'll look at a unique side of autism in the urban community," says Mary Pick, SCE program manager. "It's a wonderful forum to exchange ideas, learn support solutions and hear from notable experts, psychiatrists, doctors, scholars, family members and those with autism."

Keynote speakers Dr. Hillary Wynn, founder of Collective Focus- Speaking & Training Options, LLC, and Sherry Moyer, Executive/Research Director, University of Toledo Center for Excellence in Autism, will analyze autism in foster care, schools, group homes and residential treatment as well as how it affects those also suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

The conference is for those working in the field of autism including government officials, teachers, administrators, principals, guidance counselors, physicians, pediatricians, neurologists, public health nurses and RN's, psychologists, social workers, therapists, speech and language specialists. Attendees can earn continuing education credits by participating.

Presentation topics cover a broad range of issues including cultural and communication barriers, behavior, diagnoses, research, treatment and sibling relations. Attendees will gain a better understanding of the challenges facing educators, caregivers and parents.

For more details, visit sce-autism.uwm.edu.

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About the School of Continuing Education
As one of 14 schools and colleges that comprise the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, SCE meets the needs of participants through an assortment of courses, programs and workshops. With 19,000 participants each year, SCE is the largest provider of noncredit continuing education in Southeastern Wisconsin. Its mission is to generate knowledge and learning opportunities for individuals who are interested in developing professional skills in business, technology, and human services, enriching their lives with classes in the arts and humanities, and/or simply looking for a new intellectual challenge.

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