

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Mary Ann Cornish, Executive Director  
Higher Horizons Day Care Center, Inc.  
703-820-2457 x 114 703-7820-1578 (Fax)  
[Maryann.cornish@higherhorizons.org](mailto:Maryann.cornish@higherhorizons.org)  
[www.higherhorizons.org](http://www.higherhorizons.org)

Springfield, Virginia, Friday, June 17, 2011

Higher Horizons' Board Chairman, Ethel Cross presented the 2011 Partnership Award to Jennifer Branch, Division Director of the Fairfax County Department of Family Services Office for Children, Head Start program. The 2011 award was presented for the Office for Children's continued support of the community based early care and education program at Higher Horizons. The theme of the event was "Partnerships... Building Something Great Together." Ethel Cross shared "Community partners are essential to the success of our non-profit. Collaborating affords avenues to achieve common goals, improve, maximize and share services, and avoid duplication of services in the community. We rely on our partners for successful program implementation."

Over forty participants including members of the Board of Directors, the Early Head Start Policy Council, community partners and staff were in attendance. Community partners recognized at the Friday event were the Infant and Toddler Connection, Northern Virginia Community College, and George Mason School of Nursing. Additional community partners include Amerigroup, Bailey's Community Center, Salvation Army, George Mason School of Social Work, Wolf Trap Institute, Skyline Dental and Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital.

Higher Horizons has provided community based services in the Bailey's Crossroads/Falls Church communities of Fairfax County for over forty years. The organization has a solid track record of delivering high quality Head Start, Early Head Start, and family services to low income residents. The program supports families in gaining self-sufficiency through comprehensive services and provides early childhood education programs for expectant parents, infants, toddlers and preschool aged children.