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Nurse-Family Partnership Applauds President Obama's Call for Government Program Accountability

DENVER, CO (January 21, 2009) – Nurse-Family Partnership® (NFP) today praised President Barack Obama for his inaugural address call for government accountability in spending tax money.

“We are proud and humbled that throughout his campaign and now from the White House, President Obama has identified Nurse-Family Partnership as a wise investment in public health, and one that makes a proven and profound improvement in the lives of vulnerable first-time mothers and their children,” said Thomas R. Jenkins, Jr., president and chief executive officer, Nurse-Family Partnership.

Calls for federal investment in Nurse-Family Partnership can be found on the White House website at <http://www.whitehouse.gov> under the Family, Poverty and Urban Policy agenda sections.

During his inaugural speech on Jan. 21, the President said, “The question we ask today is not whether our government is too big or too small, but whether it works — whether it helps families find jobs at a decent wage, care they can afford, a retirement that is dignified. Where the answer is yes, we intend to move forward. Where the answer is no, programs will end. And those of us who manage the public's dollars will be held to account — to spend wisely, reform bad habits, and do our business in the light of day — because only then can we restore the vital trust between a people and their government.”

Nurse-Family Partnership is an evidence-based public health program that partners first-time, low-income mothers with a registered nurse. The mother receives nurse home visits from early in her pregnancy until her child's second birthday. Three decades of randomized, controlled trials have shown consistent results including improved prenatal health, fewer subsequent pregnancies, increased maternal employment, decreased childhood injuries and improvement in the child's school readiness. The RAND Corporation reports that each one dollar invested in Nurse-Family Partnership can yield more than five dollars in return to the community.

Today, Nurse-Family Partnership serves more than 16,000 families in 28 states. It's estimated that every year there are more 600,000 eligible first-time mothers in the U.S. that would benefit from the program.

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About Nurse-Family Partnership

The Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office (www.nursefamilypartnership.org) is committed to producing enduring improvements in the health and well being of low-income, first-time parents and their children by helping communities implement and sustain an evidence-based program of home visiting by registered nurses. NFP is the most rigorously tested program of its kind. Randomized, controlled trials conducted over 30 years demonstrate multi-generational outcomes that benefit society economically and reduce long-term social service expenditures. Nurse-Family Partnership is headquartered in Denver, Colorado.

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