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Media Contact:
Lauren Baker
303.327.4244

lauren.baker@nursefamilypartnership.org

Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy Report Points to Nurse-Family Partnership as the Leader in Effectiveness

DENVER, CO (April 7, 2009) -- Nurse-Family Partnership®, a leading non-profit organization addressing the needs of low-income, first-time parents and their children, welcomes the new Coalition of Evidence-Based Policy (CEBP) report which concludes that rigorous studies providing the highest level of confidence clearly support the effectiveness of the Nurse-Family Partnership model. The CEBP provided the summary analysis of widely-implemented programs to aid policy discussions in response to Congressional and Administration interest in expanding early childhood home visitation service. The non-profit, non-partisan CEBP noted its findings of “strong evidence of effects on life outcomes of children and mothers” by Nurse-Family Partnership are consistent with the results of an authoritative evidence review recently published in *The Lancet*, one of the top medical journals.

Nurse-Family Partnership is an evidence-based community health program that can change the lives of vulnerable first-time mothers and their babies through ongoing nurse home visits. Proven results include long-term family improvements in health, education and economic self-sufficiency.

“President Obama has included funding in his 2010 budget plan for research-based nurse home visitation for vulnerable families, and the Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy’s report is valuable in clarifying definitive levels of research for policymakers,” said Thomas R. Jenkins, Jr., president and chief executive officer, Nurse-Family Partnership. “We pride ourselves on more than 30 years of research through three randomized, controlled trials that shows consistent results in improved prenatal care, fewer subsequent pregnancies, increased maternal employment, improved school readiness by the child, decreased childhood injuries and abuse, and decreased criminal convictions.”

“When the evidence is clear that a particular program such as Nurse-Family Partnership works, investments in the program can be made with great confidence,” Jenkins continued. “While this report indicates that not all programs have demonstrated meaningful levels of evidence, states and communities will benefit if investments are made in a range of programs to provide the continuum of care that American families need and deserve. We support the

Brookings Institution call for major public investments to scale up proven programs while also investing more limited funds to further refine and test a range of early childhood program models.”

The Coalition of Evidence-Based Policy is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization promoting government policymaking based on thorough evidence of program effectiveness. The Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy’s memo, entitled “Early Childhood Home Visitation Program Models: An Objective Summary of the Evidence About Which are Effective,” is available at:

<http://www.evidencebasedpolicy.org//docs/OverviewOfEvidenceOnHomeVisitationModels409.pdf>.

Today, Nurse-Family Partnership serves more than 16,000 families in 28 states. It’s estimated that every year there are approximately 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. Nurse-Family Partnership 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.