

PRESS RELEASE

DR. JOYCE MAGUIRE PAVAO –CEO AND FOUNDER OF CENTER FOR FAMILY CONNECTIONS RECEIVES AWARD

Cambridge, MA, October 25, 2008—Dr. Joyce Maguire Pavao, CEO and Founder of Center For Family Connections (CFFC) in Cambridge, was selected by The Adoption Initiative as one of the first recipients of the Outstanding Contribution Award. The Adoption Initiative is co-sponsored by St. John’s University, Montclair State University, Rutgers University and New York University. The award is given to outstanding professionals for their tireless and unwavering commitment to the field of adoption and for serving a crucial leadership role as mentors and teachers for so many professionals and the community at large.

Dr. Pavao received the award at a ceremony at The Adoption Initiative’s 2008 Conference at NYU in New York on Saturday, October 25, 2008.

“Thanks to this gifted individual, we have made tremendous strides in our efforts to bring more profound, comprehensive, and systematic discussions about adoption issues in all their complexity to the professional and academic communities, as well as to members of the adoption triad interested in engaging in our conference and training offerings over the years.” –The Adoption Initiative Website

“I feel blessed to have a life where my personal, political and professional lives merge and I can serve families and children who’s lives are shaped by adoption and other complex family configurations.” -Dr. Pavao

Dr. Joyce Maguire Pavao is Founder and CEO of Center For Family Connections (CFFC) in Cambridge, MA and in New York. She is an adjunct faculty member of the Psychiatry Department at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Pavao has developed models for treatment and training using her systemic, intergenerational, developmental framework and her “brief-long-term therapy” model. She has done extensive training and consultation, both nationally and internationally, on issues in adoption and complex families and child welfare. Dr. Pavao is an adopted person and author of *The Family of Adoption*, Beacon Press 1998 and 2005.

At a fundamental level, Center For Family Connections’ mission is to help children feel safe, seen, and valued, and to help them adjust to the challenges of being, or having been, moved from one family to another. Many of the children CFFC serves have spent years in countless foster homes, orphanages, residential centers or hospitals. CFFC constructs families, reconstructs families, refurbishes and restores families. The experienced clinicians understand the interactions and needs of complex blended families and provide the skills, tools and talent required to build stronger and healthier family units.

CFFC believes that the need to honor connections is an essential part of family life.