

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **INMED Healthy Families Loudoun Ranks in Top 5**

STERLING, VA (May 21, 2018): INMED Partnerships for Children is pleased to announce that its Healthy Families Loudoun (HFL) program ranks among the TOP FIVE child abuse prevention initiatives in Virginia. Since joining the Healthy Families Virginia network in 1998, HFL has met or exceeded target outcomes consistently.

Healthy Families Loudoun is accredited by Prevent Child Abuse America's Healthy Families America program, an evidence-based, nationally recognized home visiting program model designed to work with overburdened families at risk for child abuse, neglect and other adverse childhood experiences. Loudoun County ranks third among Northern Virginia counties for reported child abuse cases, according to Stop Child Abuse Now.

"In all years, HFL data collection has been exemplary, their annual evaluation report cards have met all objectives and have been in the top 5 of participating Healthy Families sites," noted Lee Huntington, lead independent evaluator for Healthy Families Virginia. "In FY 2017, HFL's outcome evaluation was similarly excellent. "INMED/Healthy Families Loudoun has been a star program in the HFV Network."

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That is no surprise to Maria Elena Vasquez-Alvarez, Director of Programs at INMED's Family & Youth Opportunity Center, which facilitates HFL. "In addition to having bachelor degrees, our

family support workers receive extensive training in working directly with at-risk parents to teach them vital skills for raising healthy, nurtured children," she said. "They work tirelessly to ensure pregnant mothers receive proper prenatal care, that their babies receive medical care and all required immunizations, that they bond with their children and provide a home environment that stimulates healthy child development." Overall, HFL promotes the family and community environment that helps prevent the need for future treatment services through county-funded interventions for at-risk youth and families.

**About INMED:**

INMED Partnerships for Children is an international humanitarian organization that has improved the lives of millions of children and families in 100+ countries for more than 30 years. Headquartered in Sterling, Virginia, INMED has served at-risk children and low-income families in Loudoun since 1994 by providing child development and family/parenting education, after-school academic enrichment, skills development and job readiness services as well as intensive case management for first-time at-risk parents. For more information, contact Maria Elena Vasquez-Alvarez at [mvasquez@inmed.org](mailto:mvasquez@inmed.org) or visit <https://opportunitycenter.us>.