

WASHBURN CENTER FOR CHILDREN RECEIVES EXCELLENCE AWARD FROM MINNESOTA COUNCIL OF NONPROFITS AND MAP FOR NONPROFITS

Washburn Center for Children was recently recognized with the 2008 Nonprofit Excellence Award from the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits and MAP for Nonprofits at the annual conference of the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits. Washburn received the award in recognition of its overall excellence as identified in the Principles and Practices for Nonprofit Excellence, which include: Role in Society, Governance, Planning, Transparency and Accountability, Fund Raising, Financial Management, Human Resource, Civic Engagement and Public Policy, Strategic Alliances, and Evaluation.

“It’s a great honor to receive this award and be recognized for our work that is so important to helping children, families and the community,” said Steve Lepinski, executive director of Washburn Center for Children. “We’re celebrating 125 years of helping children in our community, and we plan to be helping children and families for many years to come.”

Washburn Center for Children is Minnesota’s leading resource on children’s mental health issues and serves nearly 1,500 children and their 4,000 families each year with treatment, consultation and support services designed to help children develop skills, resolve problems and be successful at home, in school and in the community. Three agency sites operate in Minneapolis, Minnetonka and Brooklyn Park to provide services for children ranging from birth to 18 years and their families, regardless of their ability to pay.

About The Award Sponsors and Process:

MAP and MCN jointly sponsor the annual excellence and mission awards, distributing a call for nominations and applications each Spring. The applications call for a board-endorsed review of the organization's adherence to the Principles and Practices for Nonprofit Excellence. MAP assembles a panel of experienced nonprofit leaders, including the previous year's nonprofit excellence award winners, to review excellence award applications from qualifying Minnesota organizations. Each year, the panel selects a small nonprofit recipient (annual operating budget under \$1.5 million) and a large nonprofit recipient (annual operating budget of \$1.5 million or more.)

MAP for Nonprofits provides management consulting and services, as well as board recruitment and board training to large, medium and small nonprofit organizations in the Twin Cities in order to help nonprofits achieve their missions. MAP is a nonprofit and specializes in nonprofit excellence and practice management. For more information visit www.mapfornonprofits.org.

The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits (MCN) is the statewide association of 1,800 nonprofit organizations. Through its website, resource publications, workshops, events, cost-saving programs and advocacy, MCN continually works to inform, promote, connect and strengthen individual nonprofits and the nonprofit sector.