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“LITTLE GIFTS” CAN MEAN BIG BUCKS FOR PUTNAM KIDS

Community Challenge seeks to preserve PFCS Children’s Mental Health Services

Carmel, NY – Kristin Burke and Suzanne Willis are hoping you can give one more gift this holiday season. Both women serve on the Board of Directors for Putnam Family and Community Services, Inc. (PFCS), and they are the benefactors behind the non-profit’s “Little Gifts” Challenge. In an effort to offset funding cuts, Burke and Willis have pledged to match any donation made to the agency’s Children’s Services, up to \$5,000.



Suzanne Willis (left) and Kristin Burke (right) will match up to \$5,000 in donations to PFCS Children’s Services.

“I believe that it’s important to give back,” said Willis, “and if everyone can give just a little bit, then we can really make a big difference for kids in Putnam County.” If the Challenge is successful, that “big difference” will be a total of \$10,000 to benefit children and families affected by mental health issues. PFCS offers a range of Children’s Services, including support and advocacy for families involved with the mental health system, individual and family therapy, programs and support groups to help parents cope with the challenges of raising a child with a mental illness, and bullying prevention groups,

“Our children are the future, but they need our help,” added Burke. “The most important gift we can give them is the opportunity to lead happy, healthy lives, and that’s what we are trying to do with this Challenge.”

Donations made by February 29, 2012 will qualify for Burke and Willis’s matching gift. They can be sent to PFCS at 1808 Route 6 in Carmel, or made online at www.PFCSinc.org/challenge.html.

About Putnam Family and Community Services, Inc.

Putnam Family and Community Services, Inc. (PFCS) is a private non-profit agency providing mental health, chemical dependency treatment and prevention, and family support services to people of all ages, regardless of ability to pay. PFCS promotes opportunities to grow, heal, and recover through comprehensive services including counseling, case management, family advocacy, community outreach, and assistance with addiction and rehabilitation. For more information, visit www.PFCSinc.org.