



For Immediate Release
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Board of Child Care's Ways to Work[®] Affordable-Loan Program in Baltimore Wins Award for Excellence

Site has shown strong results helping low-income families obtain an affordable, reliable car and achieve financial stability

[Baltimore] – The **Board of Child Care's** Ways to Work office in Baltimore has been recognized as one of the **Most Outstanding New Programs** among the 32 Ways to Work sites nationwide.

Ways to Work, Inc. is a Milwaukee-based social purpose lending organization which partners with nonprofit agencies nationwide to provide low-interest loans, financial education and support to working poor families trying to move out of poverty and build financial stability and self-sufficiency. Clients use the loans primarily to purchase reliable, used cars to better manage work and family obligations.

The **Board of Child Care's** Ways to Work program was one of 16 sites to recently be awarded national recognition and a \$2,500 grant by Ways to Work, Inc. at the 11th Annual Ways to Work Institute in Milwaukee. The Performance Awards recognize local Ways to Work affiliates that have shown exceptional performance, particularly in new loan production and successful management of clients.

Since the **Board of Child Care** opened the Baltimore Ways to Work office in 2008, 52 families have received loans. Among them are Rogernette Green and Candice Miller:

- Since buying her 1999 Toyota Avalon through the **Board of Child Care's** Ways to Work program, Rogernette Green has moved out of a shelter and into an apartment in a safer neighborhood with her three children. "It helped me reach my goals – go to school, find a better job and do more with my children," Ms. Green says of her car.
- Candice Miller's days used to start at 5:30 a.m. and end well past 8 p.m., leaving little time for the single mom to spend with her 4-year-old

daughter. The 2002 Mazda she purchased through the Baltimore Ways to Work office has allowed her to get to and from work and her daughter's daycare much easier. They now have time to prepare dinner together, do homework and attend pottery classes and plays. "It has helped tremendously," Ms. Miller says of her car. "I don't know if I would have come this far without the Ways to Work program."

"We are thrilled to be a recipient of this award," said Thomas Curcio, President and CEO of the **Board of Child Care**. "The grant will help us continue to work to help more low-income families purchase cars so they can get to their jobs and keep moving their families up the economic ladder."

"The **Board of Child Care** has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to supporting the success of families they serve through their Ways to Work program," said Ways to Work President, Jeff Faulkner. "The award-winning performance of the **Board of Child Care** is a reflection of the commitment they have made to providing high quality, self-sufficiency assistance to at-risk families in their communities."

Editor's Note: The Ways to Work office in Baltimore can provide reporters with contacts to interview a local resident who has benefited from Ways to Work services. Contact Jennifer Michael at 410-922-2100 ext. 5610, or jmichael@boardofchildcare.org, for more information.

The **Board of Child Care** is a nonprofit human services organization serving more than 1,300 children and families each year in Maryland, West Virginia and the District of Columbia as an outreach ministry of the United Methodist Church. Programs include residential care, foster care, early childhood education, emergency shelters, counseling, adoption, education services and a car loan program. Since 1874, the Board of Child Care has served as a community of hope: providing an opportunity to heal, and a safe and caring environment for children, youth and families.

Ways to Work is a federally certified, Community Development Financial Institution based in Milwaukee. Through a network of loan offices across the country, Ways to Work provides small, short-term, low-interest loans to working poor families with challenging credit histories. Clients use Ways to Work loans mainly to buy a car to help them obtain or retain good jobs, reduce lateness and absenteeism at work, access additional education or job training and meet their family's needs, such as transporting children to child care, doctor's appointments and school activities. Learn more at www.waystowork.org.