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**For Immediate Release**

**March 28, 2017**

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**Early Childhood Trauma Collaborative Forum**

***Improving Care for Young Children (Birth through Age Six) Affected by Trauma***

Farmington, CT – The Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut (CHDI) will host a forum on early childhood trauma at the State Capitol on Thursday, March 30th. The forum will:

* Discuss the prevalence and effects of trauma on Connecticut's young children.
* Highlight evidence-based interventions for supporting young children exposed to trauma.
* Share the Early Childhood Trauma Collaborative initiative's five-year plan to expand trauma-informed services for children birth through age six in Connecticut.

[The Early Childhood Trauma Collaborative](http://www.chdi.org/ectc) is a five-year grant awarded to CHDI from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) as part of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network to expand trauma-focused services to young children in Connecticut. The initiative aims to improve knowledge about childhood trauma among Connecticut’s early childhood workforce and increase access to trauma-focused evidence-based practices for children under seven and their families.

**WHAT: Early Childhood Trauma Collaborative Forum**

**WHEN:** **Thursday, March 30, 2017**

**9:15 am – 11:00 am** *(continental breakfast/registration begins at 8:45 am)*

**WHERE:** **State Capitol, Room 310**, **Hartford, CT**

**FORMAT:** **A brief overview of early childhood trauma and the Early Childhood Trauma Collaborative will be followed by a panel discussion and audience questions.**

**Speakers:**

Governor Dannel Malloy

Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman

Judith Meyers, President & CEO, CHDI

Jason Lang, Director of Dissemination & Implementation, CHDI

**Panelists:**

Alice Forrester, CEO, Clifford Beers Clinic

Linda Goodman, Acting Commissioner, Office of Early Childhood

Melissa Mendez, Board President, Connecticut Association for Infant Mental Health

Kristina Stevens, Children and Families Administrator, Department of Children and Families

Family Perspective

**MEDIA:** **Media interested in attending should contact Julie Tacinelli at**[***tacinelli@uchc.edu***](mailto:tacinelli@uchc.edu) **or 860-679-1534. Learn more at** [**www.chdi.org/ectc**](http://www.chdi.org/ectc)**.**

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