



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Medical Director of Kimberly's Center for Child Protection certifies in Child Abuse Pediatrics

Ocala, Fla. (February 26, 2014) – The American Board of Pediatrics recently released certification results for the Child Abuse Pediatrics subspecialty examination. Howard L. Rogers, M.D., M.P.H. has achieved this certification, joining 12 other Florida physicians to have Board Certification in this subspecialty. Dr. Rogers currently serves as the Medical Director for Kimberly's Center for Child Protection and the Marion County Child Protection Team (CPT). Child Protection Teams are a Florida Department of Health, Children's Medical Services program. Dr. Rogers also serves as the Medical Director for the Children's Emergency Department at Munroe Regional Medical Center.

Child Abuse Pediatricians are responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of children and adolescents who are suspected victims of any form of child maltreatment. This includes physical and sexual abuse, factitious illness (medical child abuse), neglect, and psychological/emotional abuse. Child Abuse Pediatricians participate in multidisciplinary collaborative work within the medical, child welfare, law enforcement, and judicial arenas, as well as with a variety of community efforts.

“Florida’s CPT system is unique in the country for its breadth of services, its comprehensiveness, extensive quality assurance, and the quality of its medical services. This CPT training and experience is reflected in these high honors,” stated statewide Medical Director, Randell Alexander MD PhD.

Rogers joined Kimberly’s Center in 2009 when the Child Protection Team Program was established here locally. “Dr. Rogers is a tremendous voice for the most vulnerable children in our community, his expertise in Child Abuse Pediatrics is matched by his compassion for the children and families who come through the doors of Kimberly’s Center” stated Dawn Westgate, Executive Director.

Rogers said, "It is a regrettable reality that children are abused and neglected at a rate that the American Board of Pediatrics has seen the need to establish a subspecialty in this area of

medicine. I am fortunate to have this certification, and I feel fortunate to be a part of professional community that values quality and compassion in the evaluation of child abuse."

About Kimberly's Center for Child Protection

Kimberly's Center for Child Protection is the Marion County Children's Advocacy Center. Kimberly's is a not-for-profit that has served our community's abused and neglected children since 1996. Kimberly's is best described by the mission: Our community working together to protect, serve, and advocate for abused and neglected children. Annually, Marion County has close to 4,000 reports of suspected child abuse and neglect and Kimberly's Center helps an average of 1,200 children. Kimberly's multidisciplinary approach to child abuse investigations is based on a national model which is specifically designed to prevent children from being further traumatized by the investigative process. Each child's plan of care is specifically designed for them, and their families, with the goal of setting a course for a healthy future. Kimberly's is accredited by the National Children's Alliance and governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Kimberly's Center relies on a combination of grants, contracts, and community donations to provide this specialized, compassionate response to child abuse.