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PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

March 19, 2019, For Immediate Release

Crossroads Center for Children is proud to announce a grant received this week from the **Stewart's Holiday Match program** to support its highly specialized work with children in the Capital Region.

Crossroads Center for Children is located in Schenectady, New York and is a not-for-profit Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) school and clinic where young children with autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disabilities learn and grow alongside their more typically developing peers. The mission of *Crossroads* is **to prepare individuals with and without developmental disabilities for life success within their families and communities.**

Each year since opening in 1998 to serve 5 young children diagnosed with Autism whose school districts did not have appropriate programs for, *Crossroads Center for Children* has educated an increased number of children with and without disabilities. The scope of the program has also increased in order to meet the growing needs of the community. *Crossroads'* mission is carried out minute by minute all year through, to help each and every student learn the critical skills they need to be successful in their classroom, family and community.

Crossroads does receive funding in the form of tuition and enrollment payments. This income alone, however, makes just a small dent in the total costs of running a highly achieving, life-changing program that *Crossroads* has become known and respected for. In order to ensure that each student learns and progresses with the essential skills for communication, behavior, social interaction, self-care, academic, motor and life, an exacting, highly effective and disciplined program based on the science of ABA is carried out across the program. To achieve this high level of programming, *Crossroads* relies greatly on financial support from our community in the way of fundraising, donations, and grants. *Crossroads* is deeply grateful to the community for supporting **Stewart's Holiday Match program**. Furthermore the organization is enormously appreciative to the **Stewart's Foundation** for their ongoing support of *Crossroads Center for Children* through this amazing opportunity.

The help provided to the community by the **Stewart's Holiday Match program** is huge, and goes directly for children 18 years and younger in the geographic area of Stewart's shops. This year's donations equaled \$1.89 million. Amy Potter, **Holiday Match** Program Director writes, "the **Stewart's Holiday Match program** has now allocated nearly \$28 million since the program's inception. We credit the success of this program to our customers for their generous contributions, our dedicated shop partners who worked diligently to collect the funds, and to our media partners who helped spread the word throughout our many regions."

Crossroads wishes to thank each and every person involved. Your caring and generous actions are making life-changing differences for the school.

For more information about this exciting grant and the important programs at *Crossroads Center for Children*, please visit <http://www.crossroadcenter.org> or contact Kelly Young, Executive Director, 518-280-0083.