

**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CONTACT: Hilary JM Topper, MPA
HJMT COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
516-997-1950

SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOOL TEAMS UP WITH BEARS 4 KIDS AND TEACHES STUDENTS THE POWER OF GIVING

Glen Cove, NY January 7, 2009 – The School for Language and Communication Development (SLCD) has partnered with the non-profit organization, Bears 4 Kids Foundation, to teach SLCD students the meaning of giving. Students will learn the power of giving back while participating in the Bears 4 Kids Empowerment Program to be completed by mid-February.

“We are delighted to have formed this new relationship and be able to teach this wonderful lesson of giving to our students,” said Dr. Ellenmorris Tiegerman, Founder and Executive Director of SLCD. “As a school, we are always asking people to help our children and give them the tools they need to succeed. We are so grateful for all of our supporters and their continuous generosity that it was only fitting that we teach our children what it means to give back and help others too.”

The Bears 4 Kids Foundation Empowerment Program’s primary focus is teaching children “acts of goodness.” Each SLCD student involved in the program gives away a teddy bear and then receives a teddy bear for their act of kindness. The program will be launched in January and completed by mid-February. The 18 school age classes at the Glen Cove school and 13 homerooms in the Woodside school will each be assigned a different geographic location. The locations include, Glen Cove, Queens, Manhattan, Brooklyn, Staten Island, The Bronx, the 50 United States, England and Israel.

Students within each class must engage in research to identify charitable programs in their assigned location. The class will then discuss as a group why a specific charitable institution has been chosen. Students will develop a report as to why each charitable organization was chosen and upon completion send teddy bears to the organization. Students will then develop a report discussing what they have learned and how it made them feel to give a teddy bear to another person in need. Upon completion of the program, SLCD will receive a monetary grant from the Foundation.

Joseph Sprung, Founder of Bears 4 Kids comments, “It is an honor and a privilege for us to partner with Dr. Tiegerman by introducing the Empowerment Program to SLCD. It is such a worthy organization and we admire the school’s efforts and dedication in bringing the gift of communication to children.”

Dr. Tiegerman adds, “Bears 4 Kids is an amazing non-profit organization that makes putting smiles on people’s faces their mission. We could not be happier to participate in the Empowerment Program and teach our children the importance of giving.”

For more information on the SLCD’s participation in the Bears 4 Kids Empowerment Program, contact the School for Language and Communication Development at 516-609-2000 ext. 123.

Founded in 2002 by Joseph B. Sprung, Bears 4 Kids is a non-profit organization committed to bringing joy to the lives of children and adults alike with the ageless gift of a lovable teddy bear. At Bears 4 Kids, the organization believes that the altruism of some can affect the lives of many, and that the support of a furry friend can make life more BEARable for all.

The School for Language and Communication Development provides special education services to children with language disorders including those along the autism spectrum continuum. SLCD’s program has grown from 36 preschoolers to more than 400 children ages 18 months to 21 years in elementary, middle and high school programs. As SLCD prepares to celebrate its 25th Anniversary in 2010, its mission to meet the special needs of children unable to speak or communicate has remained constant and the School’s motto “Language Learning for Lifelong Success” is still upheld. For information on the School for Language and Communication Development visit www.SLCD.org.

#