



## RELEASE

March 14, 2011

CONTACT: **Melissa Skarupa**  
Community Relations Specialist  
603-518-4156

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### **Ostrowski honored by the New Hampshire Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers**

*Manchester, NH...* The New Hampshire Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers hosted their annual meeting on Friday, March 4, 2011. Each year, NASW presents awards during their annual meeting to recognize and honor individuals for their contributions to the profession of social work and to society. This year, the NH-NASW honored Mike Ostrowski, president and CEO of Child and Family Services, as Social Worker of the Year.

An MSW graduate of Wayne State University, Ostrowski has been the CEO/president of Child and Family Services of NH for 25 years and has worked in the field of human services for 40 years. He has served on the board of directors for the National Council on Accreditation, Child Welfare League of America and as president of Michigan Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. His interest in children's public policy grew out of his work as a practitioner. Ostrowski manages a \$14 million/year organization that succeeds in solving social problems. Under his stead, approximately 16,000 children and families per year are served through Child and Family Services.

Ostrowski's commitment to the community is evident in his volunteer work. He has served as president of the Manchester Rotary Club; as board chair of Leadership NH, a member of the steering committee of CWLA-North Atlantic region, treasurer of Granite State Association of Nonprofits, past chair of the federally mandated Citizens Review Panel for Child Protection and advisory board member of the Endowment for Health.

"Social work is applied social-psychology," says Ostrowski. It sees the cause of events as both the individual's responsibility and that of the environment around them, and the interaction between the two. Therefore I can't be the Social Worker of the Year unless it is in part caused by the outstanding agency for which I work that should by extension receive the Social Work Agency of the Year award. My 40 years in Social work have always been in child and family type agencies and I'm so happy that I made that decision. There is no better place to work."

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is the largest organization of professional social workers in the world and seeks to advance professional knowledge in the field of social work, develop and enforce ethical standards, and promote social and legislative policies that improve conditions of life for all members of society. The New Hampshire Chapter strongly supports the core values of the social work profession including "service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence" and believes the primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed and living in poverty.

**Child and Family Services is a private, nonprofit organization... dedicated to advancing the well-being of children and families by providing an array of social services to strengthen family life and by promoting community commitment to the needs of children.**

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PHOTO: Michael Ostrowski, CEO/president, Child and Family Services of NH