



September 10, 2004

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**\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\***

**Children's Department Observes 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday  
with Celebratory Dinner and Awards Program**

**WHO**

Ruth Ann Minner, Governor  
Cari DeSantis, Cabinet Secretary  
*Awardees:* Senator Harris McDowell III & Myrna Bair  
Joseph Dell'Olio, Child Inc.  
Katherine Devine, Delaware Children's Department  
Grassroots Citizens for Children  
Sussex Inter-Agency Council for Children & Families

**WHAT**

More than 100 persons are expected to attend the Delaware Children's Department 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday Celebration Dinner, co-hosted by Governor Minner and Secretary DeSantis. Entertainment will be provided by the staff and children of the Christina Cultural Arts Center. The evening will also feature an awards presentation to volunteers who have made a difference in the lives of children who have experienced abandonment, abuse, neglect, mental illness, substance abuse or are in trouble with the law.

**WHY**

This event celebrates the important role that children play in the life of the Delaware community and will commemorate Delaware's creation of the single state agency that focuses on children services. Proceeds from the dinner will benefit *The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Children's Fund* at the Delaware Community Foundation to address the special needs of children that are beyond the Department and non-profit partners' current resources.

**WHEN/WHERE**

**5:30-6:30 p.m.** Social Hour  
**6:30-7:30 p.m.** Dinner  
**7:30-8:30 p.m.** Awards Program  
Monday, September 13, 2004  
Gold Ballroom, Hotel duPont  
Wilmington, DE