

**Press release – for immediate use**

Monday 2 March 2009

**TACT (The Adolescent and Children's Trust) and Parents for Children join together to enable UK wide adoption and fostering services for children with profound needs**

Today, TACT and Parents for Children announced that the two organisations would be joining together.

Both organisations are charities with core function finding fostering and adoption placements for children and young people. Parents for Children's service has been specifically aimed at finding adoption, fostering and short term respite placements for children and young people with disabilities and other profound needs. TACT provides fostering and adoption services across England, Wales and Scotland.

TACT Chief Executive, Kevin Williams, said:

"Parents for Children has an excellent and deserved reputation helping find permanent families for the most vulnerable children. Children with profound needs are often the most difficult to place. We will now be able to help more of them find supportive and loving homes."

Parents for Children's Chief Executive, Edwina Brocklesby, said:

"TACT's network of area offices means that local expertise and assistance will be available to help children get the best placements. It also means that carers will have access to TACT's support network vital for helping children with profound needs".

Commenting on the move, National Children's Bureau Chief Executive, Paul Ennals, said:

"Children and families will benefit from the process of combining the strengths of these two organisations. Each separately has a strong reputation, together they will be doubly strong. This is a time when children and family organisations need to explore innovative ways of working together. I commend the senior staff and trustees of these two organisations for taking this step."

**Notes to editors**

- Contact Gareth Crossman on 020 8695 8120 for further information.
- The Adolescent & Children's Trust (TACT) is the UK's largest charity provider of fostering and adoption services. Working in nine offices across England, Wales and Scotland, it is dedicated to providing effective services and campaigning on behalf of children and young people in care and families.
- Parents for Children's child-centered matching process matches individually recruited families throughout the UK to specific children's needs. They offer specialist help and advice

to families during and after the adoption process. They also provide fostering and short breaks services.

Work previously carried out by Parents for Children in finding placements, or other work such as the impact of maternal alcohol and drug abuse on the unborn child, will now be done by the 'Parents for Children part of TACT'.

**ENDS**