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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chambliss Center for Children and Isaiah 117 House break ground in Hamilton County

Chattanooga, TN... Chambliss Center for Children, in partnership with Isaiah 117 House, a Tennessee-based organization that cares for children awaiting foster placement, will soon break ground on their Hamilton County house.

On Thursday, June 16th, at 10:00 A.M., the two nonprofits will host a public groundbreaking at Chambliss Center for Children's main campus, located at 315 Gillespie Road. The event will officially begin the construction phase for the Isaiah 117 House in Hamilton County and will feature several local speakers as well as Isaiah 117 House officials.

"We are so grateful to this community for coming alongside to bring us one step closer to making this dream a reality for Hamilton County," said Ronda Paulson, founder and executive director of Isaiah 117 House. "We encourage everyone – whether you have been in prayer for this project, plan to help out, or have given financially – to be a part of this milestone in the journey of the Isaiah 117 House at Chambliss Center for Children."

The partnership between Isaiah 117 House and Chambliss Center for Children will allow all children in Hamilton County who enter state care due to abuse, abandonment, or neglect to await foster placement in a welcoming environment.

"I'm thrilled that we will be partnering with the Isaiah 117 House organization to serve children in Hamilton County during a very difficult and critical time in their life," said Katie Harbison, President and CEO of Chambliss Center for Children. "There are children and youth who don't have anywhere to go, and this house will be such a powerful, positive influence on them. I can't think of a better way to celebrate our organization's 150-year anniversary!"

All who have supported or are interested in partnering with the Isaiah 117 House at Chambliss Center for Children are welcome to attend. Parking for this event is located between Rogers Road and Gillespie Road on the North Side of the campus. For more information and location, please contact Program Coordinator, Chloe Hasden, at 423.518.3760.

About Chambliss Center for Children

Chambliss Center for Children is a local non-profit organization that has been caring for this community's children 24-hours-a-day, 365-days-a-year since 1872. The mission of the agency is to preserve family unity and to help prevent the dependency, neglect, abuse and delinquency of children by responding to the community's child care needs. This is done by providing affordable, accessible and quality care for over 750 children every day through an Early Childhood Education and Extended Child Care Program, as well as a Residential Program, which recruits and trains foster families and operates a Transitional Living Program. The newest addition to the Residential program, the Isaiah 117 House at Chambliss Center for Children, is currently in development and will provide a welcoming space for children and teens awaiting foster placement. The agency also manages six off-site childcare centers and educates and cares for the children of teachers in several Hamilton County Schools. For more information about Chambliss Center for Children, please visit www.chamblisscenter.org or call 423-698-2456.

About Isaiah 117 House

Isaiah 117 House is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization that provides physical and emotional support in a safe and loving home for children awaiting foster care placement. Currently, when a child is removed in a county without an Isaiah 117 House, the child must wait in the child welfare services office. The child is often dirty, hungry, tired, scared, and unable to bring any personal possessions. Isaiah 117 House allows for that same child to never go to an office, but rather a home with loving volunteers to care for them. Isaiah 117 House provides for that child's needs, whatever they may be, in these critical moments between removal and placement. Isaiah 117 House has locations in Tennessee, Indiana, Georgia, Florida, Texas, and Virginia. To learn more about Isaiah 117 House, visit www.isaiah117house.com.

