

PRESS RELEASE

September 24, 2007
For Immediate Release

Media Contact:

Mark Tannenbaum
St. John's Community Services
Director, Marketing and Communications
(202) 274-3409
mtannenbaum@sjcs.org

St. John's Community Services Leaders Appointed to the State Advisory Panel on Special Education for the District of Columbia

Washington, DC—Today, Antonia Brathwaite Fisher and Arthur M. Ginsberg, Board Chair and State Director, respectively, of St. John's Community Services-DC, are being sworn in by Mayor Fenty to fulfill their appointment to the State Advisory Panel on Special Education for the District of Columbia. The Swearing-In Ceremony will be conducted in the Mayor's Press Briefing Room at 5 pm.

Ginsberg will represent St. John's Community Services on the panel which will serve as an advisory body to the Mayor on matters pertaining to the education of children and youth with disabilities served by public and private agencies of the District of Columbia. Fisher will represent the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development Center, University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, where she currently serves as the Associate Director. She has worked with and on behalf of individuals with developmental and other disabilities and their families residing in the District for 29 years.

St. John's educational services, a non-public school program located within the D.C. Public Schools (DCPS), and the St. John's Community Services educational services are offered for elementary and high school aged children with disabilities in DCPS classrooms. The services are integrated into the public schools, providing opportunities for SJCS students to participate in general education classes and activities, experiencing the benefits of being educated alongside their non-disabled peers. This collaborative partnership between St. John's and DCPS supports the students to transition back into the public school program or attain the skills necessary to live and work within the community of their choosing.

St. John's Community Services is in the process of celebrating 140 years supporting children and adults in the District of Columbia. Founded in 1868, SJCS is a non-profit, non-denominational agency that is dedicated to *advancing community support and opportunities for people living with disabilities*. SJCS provides community living, supported employment, community participation and educational services to over 450 adults and children in Tennessee, Washington, DC, Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

###