



Media Contact:
Suzanne Riordan
Communications Manager
314.919.4833
sriordan@eccstl.org

For Immediate Release

Edgewood Children's Center & The Gumbo Shop Spice Up Thanksgiving

ST. LOUIS, MO – (November 12, 2009) Edgewood Children's Center and The Gumbo Shop will once again team up to bring a special Cajun twist to Thanksgiving tables across St. Louis. Owners of The Gumbo Shop, Sid and Mary Roberts, lend a hand in spicing up the deep fried Cajun turkeys. The fourth annual Cajun turkey fry will take place on Edgewood's campus the week of Thanksgiving.

This year, Edgewood volunteers will have assistance from 20 federal law enforcement officers who will dedicate two full days to help prepare, fry and wrap all 300 Cajun turkeys.

"Federal law enforcement is always eager for the chance to give back to the St. Louis community," said Toni Weirauch, special agent in charge of IRS Criminal Investigation. "We are grateful Edgewood has given us this unique opportunity to help children and families."

Edgewood Children's Center offers a wide range of services from special education and residential treatment to foster care case management and intensive home-based family therapy. The Cajun turkey fry is one of many special events Edgewood has implemented to support these programs. All of the proceeds from the event will go directly to Edgewood's programs. The 2008 turkey fry raised more than \$9,000 for the children of Edgewood.

The 10-12 lb. hens are fried in peanut oil using a special recipe, wrapped, and refrigerated for pick-up for only \$55. On Thanksgiving Day you will have a juicy Cajun bird on your table in no time. "You don't just buy a turkey," said Wayne Crull, chief operating officer. "You help us help our kids."

You can pick up your turkey on Wednesday, November 25, before 6 p.m. on Edgewood's campus in Webster Groves. Get a jump start on your 2009 Thanksgiving dinner by ordering your Cajun turkey today! For more information and to order your 2009 turkey, please visit www.eccstl.org.

About Edgewood Children's Center. This year, Edgewood Children's Center celebrates 175 years of keeping kids at the heart of everything we do. Founded in 1834, Edgewood provides compassionate care and treatment to restore children and strengthen families through intensive therapy, special education, residential treatment, case management and support services. Edgewood serves more than 300 children and family members daily. Many of the children served have been physically, sexually or emotionally abused, neglected or abandoned. On October 1, 2009, Edgewood merged operations with Boys & Girls Town of Missouri. This partnership creates a new parent organization (yet to be named) that can include a family of agencies, beginning with Boys & Girls Town and Edgewood Children's Center, enabling each agency to retain its individual identity and name. Edgewood is a 501(c)(3), non-profit, nonsectarian, United Way agency. www.eccstl.org

About The Gumbo Shop. Inside this tiny shop at 9501 Manchester Road in Rock Hill, you'll find authentic bayou dishes cooked up by Louisiana natives. From jambalaya to fried oysters, The Gumbo shop has been serving Cajun palates in the St. Louis community for nine years. The Gumbo Shop was recognized in the Riverfront Times as the best Cajun Restaurant in St. Louis and by Sauce Magazine as a 2008 Reader's Choice Award winner.

###