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NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

**CLARITY CGC ANNOUNCES NEW CEO
Jessica Knudsen steps in as Fred Hines retires after 20 years**

SAN ANTONIO – Clarity Child Guidance Center, South Texas’ only not-for-profit mental health treatment center for children ages 3 – 17, has announced a replacement for outgoing President and CEO Fred Hines, who is retiring after 20 years at the helm.

Jessica Knudsen, LCSW, will take over as President and CEO starting February 4. She was selected by Clarity CGC’s board of directors after a nationwide search. She comes to Clarity CGC from Holly Hill Hospital, one of North Carolina’s leading psychiatric and addiction treatment facilities for children and adults, where she acted in a dual role as the chief operating officer and director of risk management and performance improvement.

“We needed the right fit for this position to help continue the forward motion in place under Fred,” said John Seybold, Governing Board Chairman for Clarity CGC. “Jessica brings all of the skills and forward thinking necessary to help Clarity CGC continue to grow and serve more children.”

“Jessica’s leadership, experience and commitment to innovation and quality care make her the ideal candidate to lead Clarity CGC into the future,” said Hines.

Hines will assist with the transition. During his tenure, Hines has helped transform Clarity CGC into a national model for children’s mental health treatment. He led Clarity CGC through a 3-phase, \$22 million expansion to add more services and provide treatment to more patients. He also helped improve education among healthcare providers by establishing Clarity CGC as a teaching hospital for both Baylor College of Medicine and UT Health, which has located its Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Division on the Clarity CGC campus. Clarity CGC serves nearly 9,000 patients annually on its 8-acre campus within the South Texas Medical Center and a community clinic on the West Side.

Knudsen received her masters of science in social work from University of Texas at Austin and her BS in psychology from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She then received her license in clinical social work from the State of North Carolina. Prior to joining the Holly Hill team, she held roles in therapy and directorial positions at other behavioral health facilities. Knudsen is a married mother of twins.

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ABOUT CLARITY CHILD GUIDANCE CENTER

[Clarity Child Guidance Center](#) (CGC) is the only not-for-profit organization in South Texas providing crisis assessment, inpatient, outpatient and day treatment mental health care to children ages 3-17.

Clarity CGC offers the region's largest concentration of child and adolescent psychiatrists, with its onsite affiliation with Southwest Psychiatric Physicians. In addition, the center serves as a teaching hospital for UT Health San Antonio and Baylor College of Medicine. Clarity CGC's treatment network includes an eight-acre campus in the South Texas Medical Center with a 66-bed hospital and six-bed Crisis Assessment Center, as well as a Clarity Child Guidance Clinic located on the West Side of San Antonio.

Clarity CGC is also committed to removing the stigma often associated with mental illness and has created the [One in Five Minds](#) campaign to raise awareness and educate the community, parents, professionals, and leaders about mental illness. Learn more and take the pledge at 1in5minds.org.

Clarity CGC is a United Way agency and serves children in need, regardless of their family's ability to pay.

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