

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Five Siblings Adopted by Single Family**

***Private and Public Agencies Partnership Works to Keep Brother and Sisters Together***

San Antonio, TX - August 28, 2007 – Pathways Youth and Family Services Inc. (Pathways), one of the largest private residential and adoption providers in Texas announced today that a sibling group of five children has been adopted.

Pathways and The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) collaboratively located a family in New York that legally adopted the children on August 14<sup>th</sup> of this month. The adoption required coordination between many individuals and entities inside Texas and across state lines. Criselda Vidal, Regional Director for Pathways says, "This would not have been a success without an effective relationship between DFPS and Pathways and the cooperation of the foster family, adoptive family, state caseworkers, CASA and the court. Great things happen for children and families when we all work together."

Since it's inception in 1992, Pathways has placed a high-priority on keeping siblings that enter foster care in the same home. Given the numerous variables involved, this can be a challenging task. Mrs. Vidal adds, "Working in partnership with our dedicated foster families, this is exactly what we strive to do in every case. These children that love each other so much will never have to worry about being split up again. It's a huge victory."

The children are now living in New York with their adoptive parents and Pathways is working towards its goal of adopting 200 children out of foster care this year.

**About Pathways**

Pathways Youth and Family Services is a private non-profit social service agency founded in 1992. The organization currently serves 600 children, 300 foster families and facilitated the adoption of 150 children in 2006. Pathways was named Agency of the Year by the Texas Foster Family Association in 2006.

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