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The Plummer Home Becomes Plummer Youth Promise *Name Change Reflects Bold Pledge To Connect Vulnerable Youth With Family*

(Salem, MA) – One of the areas most respected non-profit organizations serving young people in need, The Plummer Home today announced it has changed its name to Plummer Youth Promise. The new name highlights the bold promise made as part of Plummer’s mission – to work relentlessly so that every young person in their care is connected with a permanent family.

“Many of our youth have spent years in foster care and they’re at risk of aging out of the system with nowhere to go,” said **James Lister, Executive Director of Plummer Youth Promise**. “We believe that what they really need is something most of us take for granted – the stability and support of a family that is committed to and will love them unconditionally.”

Each year, 1,000 teens in Massachusetts, and 23,000 nationally, leave foster care with no family to count on. Without that permanent connection, statistics show these kids face grim outcomes. They are more likely to drop out of school, be unemployed and become homeless. Some will turn to crime.

“Our Promise is to do everything we can to find these young men and women a safe, emotionally secure parenting relationship – either with biological family members or with new families,” said **Nicole McLaughlin, Plummer’s Director of Strategy and Advancement**.

The Plummer Home was established as a reform school for wayward boys in 1855. By the 1950s, a century after it started, Plummer became a group home for teenaged boys. Today, it has evolved a continuum of care serving young men and women as well as some younger children. Plummer Youth Promise offers residential programs including a Group Home and Supported and Community Apartments, a program for young men and women referred by the juvenile court and a foster care program. Our Intervention Model focuses on making sure young people have families while helping them build the social and vocational skills they will need throughout life.

“What’s most exciting is that our innovative Intervention Model is working,” said **Shane MacMaster, Director of Operations for Plummer**, noting that in 2016, 70 percent of youth in their Group Home left having a safe, emotionally secure parenting relationship. “People sometimes make the mistake of

assuming that teens don't want or need family, or that it's not possible to connect or reconnect them with family. Our experience shows otherwise. It's a rewarding thing to see."

Along with the new name and logo is a tagline that emphasizes the mission - *Family for Everyone*. They have also launched a new website at www.plummeryouthpromise.org.

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