



REHABILITATION FOR WISCONSIN, INC.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – OCTOBER 17, 2008

RFW Welcomes New Executive Director

Madison, WI – October 17, 2008 – Rehabilitation For Wisconsin, Inc. (RFW), a statewide nonprofit membership association supporting over 50 organizations and individuals dedicated to addressing the employment, residential and community support needs of people with disabilities or other barriers to independence, is pleased to announce the appointment of C. Thomas Cook as the new Executive Director.

C. Thomas Cook has more than twenty-five years of experience consulting, designing and operating programs serving individuals with disabilities throughout the country. Some of Cook's most notable accomplishments include: his experience as lead grant writer for the Illinois Council on Development Disabilities (ICDD), his tenure with Dungarvin, a disability service provider located in St. Paul, five years of which he served as the Regional Director, his efforts as an independent consultant to the disability industry, and most recently, his work as the Executive Director of Children's Mental Health Services/REACH in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Throughout his professional career, Cook has developed a wide range of skills, specifically in the areas of advocating on behalf of individuals with disabilities and building important relationships throughout the political sector.

With recent changes in legislative initiatives at the state-level (i.e. Family Care) and with the Presidential elections right around the corner, RFW feels fortunate to have engaged an individual that not only has a significant amount of experience developing relationships with government agencies and leading systems change but also has a passion to dedicating his life to serving individuals with disabilities or other barriers to independence. Marie Mace, President of RFW's Board indicates: "The Board is confident Mr. Cook will be the best person for the job. He has great relationships at both the state and federal levels that we're convinced he'll leverage in proactively leading RFW's efforts to initiate change and be at the forefront of every issue that arises related to the people we serve in our industry."

RFW is excited to welcome C. Thomas Cook as the new Executive Director and invites members to formally meet Mr. Cook at a Meet & Greet Luncheon on November 12, 2008 at the RFW Office located at 1302 Mendota Street, Suite 200 in Madison, WI. Lunch will be provided by TRICOR Insurance beginning at 11:30 a.m. and concluding at 1:00 p.m. In addition to the Meet & Greet Luncheon, RFW will be hosting a Welcome Reception open to the public on December 9, 2008 at the RFW Office. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided beginning at 4:30 p.m. and concluding at 6:00 p.m. For questions about Mr. Cook, or to RSVP for the Meet & Greet Luncheon or the Welcome Reception, please contact Tom Behnke at tbehnke@r fw.org or 608-244-5310.

About RFW:

Rehabilitation For Wisconsin, Inc. (RFW) is a statewide nonprofit membership association located in Madison, Wisconsin. Members consist of over 50 organizations and other individuals dedicated to addressing the employment, residential and community support needs of people with disabilities or other barriers to independence. RFW provides networking and leadership opportunities, valuable training and education events, legislative advocacy and a variety of other services to its members. RFW works to build strong partnerships between community rehabilitation programs, public policy makers and the community of people with disabilities in Wisconsin. For more information about RFW and their members, please visit the website at www.r fw.org.

Contact:

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