



Bright Horizons and Work Options Group Join Forces

*Acquisition creates unprecedented back-up care solution
for employers and working families*

[BOULDER, Co., January 6, 2009] Bright Horizons Family Solutions LLC, the world's leading provider of employer-sponsored child care, back-up care, education, and work/life solutions, today announced that it has acquired Colorado-based Work Options Group, Inc, a pioneer in the creation of innovative back-up care solutions for both children and elders. Bringing together the Work Options Group *Backup Care Options* program and the **Bright Horizons**® *Back-up Care Advantage Program*® will create the most comprehensive and extensive high-quality network of center-based and in-home back-up child and elder care solutions serving employers across the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

"I have long admired Cindy Carrillo and the Work Options Group team as thought leaders and pioneers in the back-up care field," said Bright Horizons CEO David Lissy. "By welcoming them into the Bright Horizons family, we have a tremendous opportunity to join together two successful programs and create an expanded network of the highest-quality providers to give our employer clients and their working families unsurpassed access to back-up child and elder care wherever they may live or work."

Work Options Group was founded in 1986 to provide work and family-related consulting services to employers of all sizes. In 1994, the company began focusing solely on offering back-up care solutions to corporate clients nationwide and has since grown to serve 150 clients and their 600,000 employees through a network of 5,000 providers. Joined with Bright Horizons, the combined company will provide back-up care to hundreds of the world's leading employers including; Microsoft, JPMorgan Chase, Alston & Bird LLP, McGraw Hill, Cummins Engine, Time Warner, Roche, Children's Hospital and Health System, Levi Strauss & Co., and Hallmark Cards.

"Over the past two decades, Work Options Group has developed a strong reputation for providing employers with a high quality, comprehensive solution for their employees," said Work Options Group Founder and CEO Cindy Carrillo. "We value the trust that our clients have put in our services, and this new relationship with Bright Horizons will allow what we've built to grow and thrive for many years to come."

Clients and employee users will experience no change to the high-quality manner in which they receive service and care provision. The combination of the Bright Horizons and Work Options Group back-up care network programs will create one comprehensive network of more than 6,500 providers, serving hundreds of clients and more than 1.8 million families in need of back-up care for their children, elder relatives, or adult dependents in North America and Europe. Denver-based St. Charles Capital advised Work Options Group on the transaction.

A growing number of companies are offering employees back-up care to reduce absenteeism and stress while boosting productivity and morale, all key workplace issues in these turbulent economic times. Ninety-three percent of HR leaders at companies offering back-up care say it helps employees balance work and family, 81 percent say it reduces absenteeism, and 68 percent say it lowers stress according to a recent nationwide survey. Another study found that people who have used back-up care within the past six months saved an average of 10 work days, 86 percent reported that in the last six months back-up care enabled them to work on a day they otherwise would not have been able to, and 77 percent are more productive because back-up care is available to them.

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Bright Horizons Family Solutions®

Bright Horizons® (www.brighthorizons.com) operates more than 600 child care and early education centers across the U.S., in Europe, and Canada, including more than 80 dedicated back-up child care centers. Bright Horizons serves more than 70,000 children and more than 700 clients worldwide, including more than 95 of the FORTUNE 500 and 75 of the “Best Companies to Work for in America” as designated by *Working Mother* magazine.

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