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FROM THE OFFICES OF STATE REPRESENTATIVES FRED CRESPO & MICHELLE MUSSMAN

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Crespo, Mussman Work to Develop National Strategy for Healthy Child Development

PALATINE, IL – Partnering with local and national child advocacy groups, State Reps. Fred Crespo (D-Hoffman Estates) and Michelle Mussman (D-Schaumburg) hosted the *Movement for Children: A Discussion on Youth Challenges* held at Harper College Thursday evening to collect public comments to help build the National Strategy for America's Children.

“This was a productive event that provided useful and practical solutions to ensure the healthy development of children,” Crespo said. “It was great to see so many members of the local community present and engaged as we addressed important issues.”

“The public input we collected is invaluable to policy making at the state level, and I am glad that our community's ideas will be shared at the national level,” Mussman said. “Going forward, it is important to keep up the dialogue between lawmakers and community members and to put our children first.”

Present at the event were Mark Parr from the Children's Advocacy Center for North and Northwest Cook County, Dr. Gary Bublitz of the Campanelli YMCA and the President and CEO of Prevent Child Abuse America (PCAA) Jim Hmurovich. PCAA has held town hall meetings similar to the one hosted by Crespo and Mussman across the nation to collect local input in an effort to create a national strategy for healthy child development that will be presented to Congress on November 6, 2011.

Attendees were given the opportunity to present ideas and solutions about a wide range of children's issues including: education, child abuse prevention, building strong families, nutritional wellness and mental health.

“I want to thank Reps. Crespo and Mussman for hosting such a great event in our community,” said Michele Marvucic of Roselle. “Addressing these issues will ensure that our children are given every opportunity to mature and develop properly.”

For more information please contact Rep. Crespo's office at (630) 372-3340 or Rep. Mussman's office at (847) 923-9104.

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