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Cengage Learning's Concept Media Introduces DVD Series to Help Caregivers Better Understand Autism

*New Series Features Methodology Profiled in HBO's Emmy Award-Winning Documentary,
Autism: The Musical*

Clifton Park, NY — June 22, 2009 — Concept Media, a leading provider of professional nursing education solutions and part of Cengage Learning, today introduced a seven-part DVD series titled *Unlocking the World of Autism: 7 Keys to Becoming Miracle Minded*, a practical guide to understanding autism. This new series features the unique methodology developed by Elaine Hall founder of The Miracle Project, a musical theater and film program developed for children with autism and other special needs, which was recently profiled in HBO's Emmy award-winning documentary, *Autism: The Musical*.

Developed for staff who work with children with special needs in schools, lifestyle/community centers and health care facilities such as physician's and dental offices, clinics and hospitals, the DVD series demonstrates techniques from The Miracle Project, which integrates creativity into traditional therapies for daily interaction with children with autism. Featuring Dr. Ricki Robinson, co-director of the Descanso Medical Center for Development and Learning and Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Southern California School of Medicine, and Professor Stephen Shore, PhD, international speaker and author who has autism, the series progresses through seven integrated and sequential keys to understanding autism and making connections with children on the autism spectrum. The seven keys to becoming *Miracle Minded* include:

- Key 1: Set Your Intention
- Key 2: Manifest a Loving and Accepting Attitude
- Key 3: Understand a Sensitive Sensory System and Experience Sensory Overload Common to Autism
- Key 4: Follow the Child's Lead
- Key 5: Include the Child
- Key 6: Practice Makes Perfect: Rehearse for Life

- Key 7: Celebrate! Live Miracle Minded

The videos, produced by Diane Isaacs, a partner in The Miracle Project, utilize music, movement and drama to nurture self-expression and social skills – areas in which children with autism are typically challenged. Watching this new series, viewers will experience the world of autism from the inside out and will learn how to reduce their frustrations and anxieties when working with children with autism or other special needs. Users will understand how to create a calm, accepting environment for these children and experience the joys and rewards of positive interactions with children with autism and their families.

“Autism is the most common developmental disability in the United States. With one in every 150 children having symptoms along its spectrum, autism is more prevalent than childhood AIDS, cancer and diabetes combined,” said Marcia Wellington, Media Editor, Concept Media. “This new series will help health care workers, schools and the general public better understand the complexity of the disorder, as well as the joys that can come from interactions with children with autism.”

For more information on *Unlocking the World of Autism: 7 Keys to Becoming Miracle Minded* or to purchase the series, please visit www.conceptmedia.com.

About the Miracle Project

The Miracle Project (themiracleproject.com) is a musical theater and film program developed for children with autism and other special needs as well as their typically developing peers, siblings, other family members, neighbors, and volunteers. The program utilizes music, movement, and drama to nurture self-expression and social skills, which are areas in which children with autism are typically challenged. As profiled in HBO’s Emmy award-winning documentary, *Autism: The Musical*, The Miracle Project effectively integrates traditional therapies and creative protocols in an interactive, social dynamic.

About Elaine Hall

Elaine Hall, founder of The Miracle Project, is often referred to by her students and their parents as “Coach E.” She is an educator, global autism enrichment program ambassador, writer, motivational speaker, performer and professional acting coach.

About Diane Isaacs

A partner in The Miracle Project with Elaine Hall, Diane brings her diverse career experience as a film and television producer to its multi platform educational and entertainment content to create awareness and community for autism.

About Cengage Learning

Cengage Learning delivers highly customized learning solutions for colleges, universities, professors, students, libraries, government agencies, corporations and professionals around the world. Delmar, part of Cengage Learning, is the leading provider of lifelong learning products and services for the health care, technology and trades, and career education markets. Delmar’s market-leading imprints include Concept Media, Autodesk Press, Chilton, Milady, NetLearning and OnWord Press. For more information, please visit www.cengage.com or www.cengage.com/delmar.