

Chicago Preschool Named to Honor Longtime Child Welfare Advocate

October 16, 2010 – Smart Love Preschool, a new preschool based on the uniquely effective Smart Love parenting philosophy, announced today that the preschool will be named to honor the late Natalie G. Heineman, a pioneering champion for children's welfare in Chicago and nationally. Thanks to the generous contribution made by Drs. Ewa Schaff-Blass and Josef Blass, the preschool will open as The Natalie G. Heineman Smart Love Preschool. The building will house the preschool as well as Smart Love Family Services, a nine-year old non-profit that provides counseling for children, teens and adults; parenting classes and mental health consultation and parenting presentations to schools, agencies and the medical field.

"We are honored to have <u>Natalie Heineman's</u> name associated with our organization," says Carolyn Stolper Friedman, Executive Director of Smart Love. "Her vision and commitment to bettering the lives of children and families is truly an inspiration. We look forward to carrying on her legacy with The Natalie G. Heineman Smart Love Preschool."

Mrs. Heineman was born in 1913 in Chicago, where she lived for her entire life. A graduate of University of Chicago, she went on to pursue a career as a social worker and later lead many local and national civic and charitable organizations. She was the first female president of the Chicago Child Care Society and was also the president of the Child Welfare League of America, which honored her legacy by naming a national award for outstanding service to children after her. Mrs. Heineman made an indelible impact on child welfare organizations on both a local and national level. Her work was guided by a conviction that programs and institutions should be adapted to fit the unique needs of the children they serve. Her legacy is alive through the work of her daughter, Martha Heineman Pieper, Ph.D.

Martha Heineman Pieper, Ph.D., and her husband William J. Pieper, M.D. are psychotherapists, consultants to other mental health professionals and parents of five children. Their extensive work with children, both professionally and personally, led them to develop *Smart Love*, a uniquely effective parenting and child development philosophy. The *Smart Love* approach is based on the latest knowledge of what a child's mind is like at birth and how it changes throughout childhood. This philosophy is the foundation for <u>Smart Love Family Services</u> and the newly established Natalie G. Heineman Smart Love Preschool.

For more information about the Smart Love Preschool, Smart Love Family Services, or to donate to the Martha Heineman Pieper, Ph.D. and William J. Pieper, M.D., Scholarship Fund, please call Carolyn Stolper Friedman at 773.665.8052 or email her at carolyn.friedman@smartlovefamily.org.