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NCLC Lewis Hine Awards

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**National Child Labor Committee Honors**

**MICHAEL DUGGAN of Stamford, Connecticut, Executive Director, Domus  
with 2012 LEWIS HINE AWARD for Service to Children and Youth**

**26<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Honor Those Who Stand Up for America's Kids**

**New York, New York, January 17, 2012**—The National Child Labor Committee (NCLC) today announced that **Michael Duggan**, Executive Director of Domus in Stamford, CT, [www.domuskids.org](http://www.domuskids.org), will receive one of its prestigious **LEWIS HINE AWARDS FOR SERVICE TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH**. The Awards will be presented at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City on the evening of Monday, January 30th.

Named for the acclaimed NCLC photographer who documented early-20<sup>th</sup> century exploitation of children, the LEWIS HINE AWARDS honor those individuals who, either as professionals or volunteers, give of themselves and go the extra mile for the well-being of young people. The recipients, who this year hail from as far away as Wyoming and as close as New York, are selected by a distinguished panel of judges from among hundreds of nominations submitted each year by business, community, and non-profit leaders.

This year's program will be chaired by **Maria R. Morris, Executive Vice President of MetLife, Inc.:**

*"We congratulate this year's honorees for their truly extraordinary accomplishments and appreciate their exceptional service on behalf of our nation's children and youth,"* said Ms. Morris. *"MetLife and MetLife Foundation have a longstanding commitment to improving the health and well-being of young people and preparing them for the future. We are proud to join NCLC in recognizing this year's Lewis Hine Awards honorees for their dedication and hard work toward making the welfare of all children a priority."*

**Domus' Michael Duggan**, who lives in Guilford, Connecticut, will be honored for dedicating his life's work to ensuring that vulnerable youth who need extra support to reach their full potential are given adequate support, structure, and love to experience success.

Nominated for the Lewis Hine Award for his service in Connecticut for the last 20 years, Mr. Duggan has transformed Domus from a single group home on a limited budget serving seven boys to a regional nonprofit organization that runs charter schools, residential programs, and community programs serving 1,000 youth with a budget of over \$14 million. Whereas traditional schools might give up on at-risk students, Domus, according to its website, gives their youths love, structure, and

support; helps them learn independent living and job skills; and teaches them creative thinking and problem-solving skills.

In 1999, Mr. Duggan opened the Trailblazers Academy Charter School. This charter school was so successful at educating middle-school students who had been unsuccessful in traditional schools that the former mayor of Stamford and current governor of Connecticut, Dannel P. Malloy, requested that Mr. Duggan open the Stamford Academy Charter High School for older youth. This school also proved to be successful—high school students entering the school 4 to 6 levels below grade level did so well at the charter high school that 91 percent were accepted at colleges of their choice. Based on the success of these two Stamford schools, the New Haven Public Schools asked Mr. Duggan to operate a middle school for the district, and Domus Academy opened in New Haven in 2010.

Prior to running Domus, Mr. Duggan worked for nine years at Good Shepherd Services in Brooklyn, New York, a leading family service agency devoted to providing education and services to at-risk youth and their families. Throughout his career, Mr. Duggan proved that if you don't give up on youth and provide them with guidance and love, they will reach their full potential.

The NCLC also announced that a select group of public figures will be honored with special awards, including the **Distinguished Service Awards** to business leaders and individuals in the public eye who have had a positive impact on the welfare of children and youth, **The David T. Kearns Award for Excellence and Innovation in Education**, and **The Ronald H. Brown Award**, which honors American leaders, like the late Mr. Brown, who have overcome prejudice and discrimination and uses his or her public platform to help today's young people do the same. In addition, this year the NCLC will inaugurate **The Nancy Daly Advocacy Award** memorializing the late Los Angeles, California, activist and philanthropist Nancy Daly whose continuous efforts over many years provided support and opportunity for thousands of young people.

Since its inception, thousands of deserving individuals have been nominated for LEWIS HINE AWARDS and over 250 have been selected as honorees. Previous recipients have gained national and local recognition and have earned increased support, allowing them to make an even greater difference in their communities. Each of this year's LEWIS HINE AWARDS Honorees will receive a \$1,000 award.

**For more information about the National Child Labor Committee and the LEWIS HINE AWARDS, visit [www.nationalchildlabor.org](http://www.nationalchildlabor.org)**

**For more information about MetLife and MetLife Foundation, visit [www.metlife.com](http://www.metlife.com) and [www.metlife.org](http://www.metlife.org).**

**PRESS CONTACT:**

To learn more about this year's awards or to speak with any of the Honorees, the LEWIS HINE AWARDS' Chair, or the NCLC Committee's Chairman and the Executive Director, contact **Joyce Appelman**, 516-482-1016 or at [joyceappelman@gmail.com](mailto:joyceappelman@gmail.com).