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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Spend spring break at MCM's Healthy Habits Week

Event includes fun activities, guest programs, bike donation drive

MADISON, Wis. (Monday, March 15, 2010) — Start spring fresh and lay the groundwork for a lifetime of good health by bringing the family to Madison Children's Museum's Healthy Habits Week, from March 29–April 1 at the east-side Goodman Community Center, 149 Waubesa St.

Sponsored by Dean & St. Mary's, the free four-day event will feature interactive programs related to nutritious food, physical fun, and a healthy mind and body, plus guest appearances and some of the museum's favorite traveling exhibits.

There will be plenty of opportunities to play and learn at the third annual Healthy Habits Week, which takes place during many local school districts' spring break. The mobile museum will be set up in the Evjue Room of the center and will be open Monday, March 29, through Wednesday, March 31, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, April 1.

Plant a garden and set up a market stand in the *Let's Grow* exhibit, learn about our local lakes' plants and animals through *Leap Into Lakes*, become a paleontologist with *Dig Into Dinosaurs* and build a kid-size yurt for *World of Homes*. Also included in the weekly schedule will be favorite programs such as Art Dabblers and Cantajuego.

On Wednesday, March 31, the museum and the center will host a bike drive for DreamBikes Madison. Community members are encouraged to drop off their used youth and adult bicycles in Goodman's parking lot from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; tax-deductible donation receipts will be issued. Donated bicycles will be refurbished by DreamBikes' youth employees, who are learning how to run a successful bike shop.

"Madison Children's Museum is extremely grateful that Goodman Community Center has given us a place to share our fun programs, activities and exhibits to nurture healthy minds and bodies," said Sandra Bonnici-Hoecherl, the museum's outreach coordinator.

Families who attend Healthy Habits Week also will get a chance to see photos and progress of the new Madison Children's Museum. A two-day Grand Opening Celebration is set for August 14–15, 2010, in its new home on the Capitol Square at 100 N. Hamilton Street.

Madison Children's Museum: Madison Children's Museum (MCM) is an award-winning organization which fosters family and community connections, and provides a place where every child can learn through interactive play. MCM's hands-on exhibits and programs celebrate and encourage children's imaginations and the power of play as the cornerstone of learning.

The museum has closed its doors at 100 State Street and is preparing to open its new facility on the Capitol Square's north corner. It will reopen August 14 with plenty of new, exciting exhibits, along with some old favorites. While the museum is closed, go to MadisonChildrensMuseum.org for a schedule of Road Show events, sponsored by Target, and other special events.