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For Immediate Release

Sweden's "Move & Walk" Conductive Education Program Visits Grand Rapids to Observe Conductive Learning Center-Aquinas College Model

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., March 11, 2015 - Leadership from Sweden's Move & Walk Conductive Education program will visit Grand Rapids March 11-13 to observe and learn from the Conductive Learning Center (CLC). CLC, through its partnership with Aquinas College, provides the only Conductive Education teacher training program in North America.

Due in part to lobbying efforts of Move & Walk, Sweden recently endorsed Conductive Education (CE) as the primary treatment and educational solution for children with cerebral palsy. This endorsement, coupled with Move & Walk's recent expansion from one to five Conductive Education centers across Sweden, has created a need for Sweden to develop its own teacher training programs. The purpose of their Grand Rapids visit is to learn from the CLC and Aquinas collaborative model. Move & Walk representatives will meet with CLC and Aquinas leadership, CLC parents and students to engage in an open dialog about Conductive Education and its future.

Developed more than sixty years ago in Hungary by Dr. András Pető, Conductive Education maximizes the independence and mobility of children and adults with motor disabilities, including stroke survivors, and those with cerebral palsy, spina bifida, multiple sclerosis, acquired brain injuries, and Parkinson's disease. CE operates from a core belief in neuroplasticity – the lifelong ability of the brain to reorganize neural pathways based on new experiences – and on the premise that no matter how severe the disability, people can learn and improve when they are motivated. Conductive Education helps individuals learn their way to independence. CE is a widely accepted practice with proven success across the globe, and is integrated into the community rehabilitation and educational systems in Hungary, Israel, Germany and Great Britain.

About the Conductive Learning Center of Aquinas College

The Conductive Learning Center (CLC), located in Grand Rapids, Mich., serves children birth to age 26 with motor disorders related to complications of prematurity, cerebral palsy, spina bifida or brain injury. Since 1999, the CLC, a subsidiary corporation of Aquinas College, has helped more than 350 children reach their maximum physical, cognitive and social independence through the application of Conductive Education principles. Through a unique collaboration between Aquinas College and András Pető College in Budapest, Hungary, CLC acts as a laboratory school for Aquinas College's School of Education, the only teacher-training program in North America to utilize the Conductive Education methodology, www.conductivelearningcenter.org

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