



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Theodore Wachtel to be Inaugurated as
the Founding President of New IIRP Graduate School**

The Board of Trustees of the International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP) Graduate School is pleased to announce the Inauguration of Theodore (Ted) Wachtel as Founding President.

The ceremony is Monday, October 8, 2007, 10:30 a.m., at the Hotel Bethlehem, in Bethlehem, Pa.

U.S. Congressman Charles Dent and Bethlehem Mayor John B. Callahan are scheduled to speak, and several higher education administrators are expected to attend.

The Institute received its Charter of Authority as a Graduate School from the Pennsylvania Department of Education in June 2006 and opened in October 2006. Its main campus is at 544 Main Street, Bethlehem (www.iirp.org).

IIRP Graduate School students hail from the Lehigh and Delaware valleys and beyond. The Institute offers master's degrees in Restorative Practices and Education, and Restorative Practices and Youth Counseling, as well as a graduate certificate.

Restorative practices is an emerging field of study that enables people to restore and build community in an increasingly disconnected world. It has been successfully employed by the IIRP's demonstration programs for youth, and in many school, criminal justice, children-and-youth-serving and workplace environments.

A native of Allentown, Pa., and a graduate of William Allen High School, IIRP president Ted Wachtel attained national prominence in the 1980s as co-author of *Toughlove*, a best seller for parents of troubled adolescents.

In 1977 Wachtel and his wife, Susan Wachtel, former teachers in the Penridge School District, founded the Community Service Foundation (CSF) and its sister nonprofit, Buxmont Academy, which now include eight schools, 16 foster group homes and other programs that have served youth and families in eastern Pennsylvania for 30 years. These youth services now serve as the demonstration programs for the IIRP, which teaches the successful strategies used at CSF and Buxmont. The IIRP's Training and Consulting Division has taught these strategies to tens of thousands of professionals from 50 U.S. states and 40 countries, and has affiliates and licensees in 12 countries.

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