

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

December 4, 2007

CONTACT:

Quinn Barbour

Institute for Community Inclusion, UMass Boston

617-287-4309 (voice); 617-287-4352 (fax)

quinn.barbour@umb.edu

www.communityinclusion.org

**INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY INCLUSION HOSTS BOSTON
PREMIERE OF *INCLUDING SAMUEL*
Film Featured in Yesterday's Boston Globe**

Boston, MA, December 4- For over 30 years the Institute for Community Inclusion's (ICI) mission has been about promoting inclusion and access for all people, with and without disabilities. Alongside our partners – families, schools, communities, and others – we advocate for personal choice, self-determination, and justice. The ICI invites you to the Boston premiere of *Including Samuel*, a film exemplifying our mission. The film screening will take place at UMass Boston Campus Center Ballroom on December 4th, from 6 – 9:30pm. The movie was featured in yesterday's *Boston Globe*. The article can be read here: http://www.boston.com/ae/movies/articles/2007/12/03/focus_on_the_family/.

Award-winning photojournalist Dan Habib created *Including Samuel*, a documentary film that examines the educational and social inclusion of youth with disabilities. The film is built on the efforts of Habib and his family to include Samuel, 7, in all facets of school and community. *Including Samuel* addresses the contentious subject of inclusive education by examining four other families' inclusion experiences, as well as dozens of interviews with teachers, parents and disability rights experts.

The film won the national "Positive Images in Media" award from TASH, an international organization that advocates for the inclusion of people with disabilities. Barbara Trader, executive director of TASH, said "*Including Samuel* is an exquisite, yet realistic, depiction of the joys and struggles experienced by families of children with disabilities. By sharing your personal story and your skills as a photojournalist," Trader said, "you have created a film that offers unique insight into what inclusion can mean in the lives of our children."

Including Samuel was featured on NPR's *All Things Considered* radio program and in the *Boston Globe*'s lifestyle section. Other media coverage includes an article in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, a feature in the health section of *The Washington Post*, coverage on *NH Chronicle*, a front-page story in the *Concord Monitor*, and more. Recent film premieres in New Hampshire and Washington DC have been sold out. The Boston premiere is also at capacity.

For additional information about *Including Samuel* visit www.includingsamuel.com. More material on inclusive education is available at www.communityinclusion.org. To schedule an interview with one of ICI's inclusive education experts, contact Quinn Barbour at quinn.barbour@umb.edu.

The Institute for Community Inclusion is a national disability research and training center based at the University of Massachusetts Boston, with additional offices at Children's Hospital Boston. ICI promotes the inclusion of people with disabilities in their communities through training, consultation, clinical and employment services, and research. For more information about ICI, visit www.communityinclusion.org.

###