



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Jonah Edelman, Founder, Stand for Children  
to Speak at Acelero Learning Camden County  
Community Partner Roundtable**

*National children's advocate to help celebrate  
Acelero Learning Camden County's success in providing high quality  
Early Head Start and Abbott Pre-K services*

**Camden, NJ  
March 5, 2008**

Jonah Edelman, the founder and Executive Director of the Stand for Children, will deliver a special keynote address celebrating the success of Acelero Learning Camden County at a **Community Partners Roundtable on Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm**. This special event will highlight Acelero Learning Camden County's work with key community partners for their Early Head Start and Abbott Pre-K programs in Camden.

"I am so pleased to be able to able celebrate Acelero Learning Camden's success with their local board, leadership, and most importantly, community partners in Camden. I know that building partnerships to better serve children and families is critically important in every community across the country, I am excited to learn about Acelero Learning Camden County's success in this important work during my visit."

Jonah Edelman is based in Portland, Oregon and serves as the founder and Executive Director of the Stand for Children. Since Stand for Children's historic founding rally in Washington DC in 1996, Jonah has helped Stand for Children become a path breaking child-advocacy organization. In 1998, after closely studying the work of a range of organizations, he conceptualized Stand for Children's grassroots advocacy approach and then moved to Oregon to field-test it himself. From that point, Stand for Children has grown steadily. Jonah has served as a member of the national board of directors for Acelero Learning, Inc. since April of 2006.



“We are indeed honored to host Mr. Edelman, and privileged to convene our current friends and supporters, and reach out to new ones, at this special event,” said Reverend Mark Merrill, the Chair of the Acelero Learning Camden County Board of Directors and lifelong Camden resident. “For the last three years, we have worked determinedly to rebuild the Early Head Start program, and to expand our services. This celebratory event will serve as a crucial point of reference to Acelero’s success in this continuing transformation process, and provide us the opportunity to share with community leaders Acelero’s commitment to continual growth and improvement in services to Camden children and families.”

The event will be held at Christus Lutheran Church located at 909 North 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Camden, NJ 08105. The roundtable will include participants from the Camden Board of Education, Dooley House, Early Intervention, Teach for America, Senator Frank Lautenberg’s South Jersey office, and others.

“We are excited to let all of Camden know about the great work we do with our many community partners to help support high-quality programming for children ages zero to five,” said Victoria Ankrah, the Director of Acelero Learning Camden County. “I am a former Head Start child myself, so I know what a difference a great Head Start program can make. We are proud of the strides we have made in transforming Early Head Start in Camden, and we are thrilled to be able to serve many of these same children and families in our Abbott Pre-K program at Christus Church in Kramer Hill.”

### **About Acelero Learning Camden County**

Acelero Learning Camden County was founded in 2005 as a partnership between local community leaders and Acelero Learning, a company that partners with local communities to support high quality Head Start and Early Head Start programs. “We build long term, sustainable partnerships in each community where we work,” said Aaron Lieberman, Acelero Learning founder and CEO. “In every case, the result of our partnerships has been Head Start or Early Head Start programs that provide expanded services for children and families, more qualified teachers, and higher teacher salaries to make sure the maximum number of children are benefiting from federal Early Head Start funds.” Acelero Learning Camden County was awarded the Early Head Start grant for Camden County in October of 2005, and began providing Abbott-Pre-K services in October of 2006.

#### **CAMDEN EARLY HEAD START**

Acelero Learning Camden Early Head Start  
250 Federal Street  
Camden, NJ 08103  
(856) 635-0002

#### **ABBOTT PRE-K LEARNING CENTER**

Acelero Learning Camden County  
Christus Lutheran Church  
909 North 26th Street  
Camden, NJ 08105  
(856) 635-0002