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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Joan Campbell Named Friends of Youth President and CEO

REDMOND, WA -- Friends of Youth's Board of Directors announced today that Joan Campbell has accepted the position of President and CEO with the Redmond based not for profit. Campbell, who has been serving as COO and VP of Programs, is replacing Edward Belleba who was with Friends of Youth for almost four years.

Ms. Campbell, a resident of Issaquah, has over three decades of experience in the youth and family services sector and recently celebrated her 20th anniversary at Friends of Youth. "Her experience, reputation, and institutional knowledge are invaluable," says William Savoy, Board Chair. "She is more than capable of assuming the CEO role and has the full support of the Board in that position."

Savoy, a Bellevue resident, was elected to the Chair position at the June 25th Board Meeting along with a new slate of officers. Remaining officers elected include Phil Crocker, of Seattle, as Vice Chair; Nick Merriam, of Bothell, as Vice Chair; Ellen Boyer, of Redmond, as Treasurer; and Teresa Dahl, of Kirkland, as Secretary. Karla Easton, of Seattle, is the Immediate Past Chair.

Belleba announced his resignation to the Board of Directors and the Friends of Youth staff on Thursday, June 18th. "The agency is in a strong position both programmatically and financially. I am confident that our achievements over the past few years have uniquely positioned Friends of Youth for future success. This is the perfect time to transition leadership." said Belleba. "It has been inspiring to work with a team of committed professionals focused on the needs of our most challenged youth and their families. I am happy to have been a part of that important work."

Savoy commented, "Ed joined Friends of Youth as CEO at a pivotal time. He worked successfully to define our strategic priorities, build our development capability, and expand collaboration and partnerships across Friends of Youth's four program divisions. We wish him well in his new endeavor."

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Friends of Youth is a non-profit agency dedicated to supporting youth and their families in King and Snohomish counties. Friends of Youth provides a broad range of services to improve its clients' emotional stability and self-sufficiency, including homeless shelters, transitional housing, outreach, mental health counseling, and substance abuse prevention and treatment. Friends of Youth will celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2010. For more information, visit www.friendsofyouth.org.