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Local Leader Tapped By Youth ***Karl J. Krapek Joins Our Piece of the Pie's Champions Council***



Hartford, CT..... Youth development agency, Our Piece of the Pie®, Inc. (OPP®), is proud to welcome Karl J. Krapek as a member of its Champions Council, a prestigious advisory group of community and corporate leaders who support the organization's mission to help urban youth become economically independent adults.

Karl Krapek retired as President and COO of United Technologies Corporation in 2002 and then co-founded The Keystone Companies, which develops residential and commercial real estate. He is the lead director of Prudential Financial, Inc. and chairs the Compensation Committee and the Risk Committee and he is a director of Northrop Grumman Corporation where he chairs the Compensation Committee. Mr. Krapek also chairs the Strategic Planning Committee for the Board of Directors at St. Francis Care, Inc., founded and is still on the board of the Hartford Youth

Scholars Foundation, and chairs Nominating and Governance for the Greater Hartford Community Foundation.

For the past forty years, OPP has served Connecticut youth through mentoring, education and employment programs. OPP works with young people, ages 14 -24, who face significant social, economic and academic barriers, helping them overcome obstacles by providing personal guidance, academic assistance, and career readiness services that prepare them for success as adults. Last year, the organization served close to 1,100 youth.

The Champions Council was created in 2011 to help the nonprofit improve education and employment outcomes for urban youth. The Council acts as advisors to OPP's CEO and Board on such strategic issues as planning, growth and long-term sustainability. Krapek joins other Champions Council members Tom Barnes, Ed Budd, Joel Freedman, Marilda Gandara, Mickey Herbert, Peter Kelly and Donald K. Wilson, Jr.

"OPP is making great strides in helping urban youth earn high school diplomas, graduate from college and vocational programs, and secure stable jobs in growing, good paying fields," said Krapek. "I am proud to be a part of this nationally recognized effort to give young people the support and opportunities they need to succeed."

"Karl has been a long-time supporter of Our Piece of the Pie and we know that he'll make an outstanding member to our Champions Council," says Bob Rath, President and CEO of OPP. "We are honored to have him join us."

About Our Piece of the Pie:

Our Piece of the Pie (OPP) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping 14 to 24 year-old urban youth become economically independent adults. OPP helps youth who face big obstacles. Whether it's poverty, gang threats, brushes with the law, or just some bad breaks in life, OPP focuses on young people the rest of the world seems to have given up on. OPP's unique model is centered on a personal, intense and consistent relationship developed between each youth and a caring, committed and proactive adult staff member. That relationship helps participants identify and overcome barriers, access support services and programs, and achieve the goals of high school graduation, a college degree and/or vocational certification and rewarding post-education employment. Founded in 1975, OPP provided high school, community college and community-based programs to close to 1,100 young people throughout Connecticut communities last year. For more information, please visit www.OPP.org.