



Contact: Katie St. Clair
Phone: 214-743-1273
Email: katie.st.clair@metrocareservices.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SHOP FOR A CAUSE AT NORTHPARK'S CHICO'S **Dallas Nonprofit, Metrocare Services, To Receive 10% of Chico's Sales on April 20th**

You were probably going shopping anyway. Now you can justify your spending. Just visit metrocareservices.org, print out the coupon under Events, and take it to Chico's at NorthPark on April 20, 2010, between 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Chico's will donate 10% of your purchase price to Metrocare, a nonprofit that provides mental health care for children and adults living with mental illness or special needs. Chico's is located on the 1st floor of NorthPark Mall by Nordstrom at 8687 North Central Expressway.

Metrocare Services is a 501(c)3 nonprofit with over 40 years of history serving children and adults living with mental illness or developmental disabilities in Dallas County as the Mental Health Mental Retardation (MHMR) Center. Low income families seek help from Metrocare for autism, Downs Syndrome, various developmental delays, depression, bipolar disorder, severe emotional problems and much more. Several clinics located across the city provide counseling, medication and therapy to our neighbors in need at some of the hardest times of their lives. Metrocare also operates several housing programs for individuals who are homeless and diagnosed with a mental illness such as depression, schizophrenia or bipolar disorder. Lives are restored and renewed through these supportive housing programs which allow the individual to focus on recovery in a safe environment.

The number of people seeking help from Metrocare has increased drastically in recent years from 23,000 clients served in 2007 to over 37,000 clients served in 2009. This dramatic growth can be attributed to both the economic conditions, which have caused more citizens to turn to the public health care sector for help, and also the slow but impactful reduction in the stigma against mental illness.

While the demand for mental health care steadily rises, funding continues to fall. Metrocare has asked the Dallas community to join the mission to serve our neighbors by forming the Metrocare Auxiliary which has grown to over 100 members since 2009. Auxiliary members will be hosting the fund raiser at Chico's as well as the annual luncheon, Meal for the Minds, at the Belo Mansion on September 15, 2010. John Elder Robison, author of the New York Times Best Seller *Look Me In The Eye; My Life With Aspergers*, will be the keynote speaker for this year's Meal for the Minds.

For more information, please contact Katie St. Clair (214-743-1273, katie.st.clair@metrocareservices.org) or Lindsay Zimmerman (214-743-1220, lindsay.zimmerman@metrocareservices.org). Information about Metrocare can also be found at metrocareservices.org or by becoming a Fan of Metrocare on Facebook.

This offer is valid at the Chico's Boutique at NorthPark Mall only 4/20/10 from 2 to 7 p.m. You must present a copy of the coupon (found at metrocareservices.org under Events) for Metrocare to receive the donation.

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