



For Immediate Release

Contact: Jeff Hankin

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****MEDIA ADVISORY****

**TAI SOPHIA PARTNERS WITH SIX NEW INSTITUTIONS TO PROVIDE
ACUPUNCTURE STUDENTS WITH EXPERIENCES IN PUBLIC HEALTH SETTINGS**

LAUREL, Md. (April 30, 2008) – Tai Sophia Institute maintains its position as the leading institute in wellness-based education by providing its acupuncture students with additional opportunities to train as clinicians. In addition to its five clinical sites throughout the Baltimore area, the Institute has established new partnerships with six organizations that will give students a wider range of experiences in using acupuncture in real-world, public health settings.

The new clinic sites and their student clinic schedules are:

- Chase Brexton Health Services
5500 Knoll North Dr., Ste. 370
Columbia, MD 21045
Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- Healthcare for the Homeless
111 Park Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21201
Mondays and Wednesdays, 8 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
- Howard Community College, Wellness Center
10901 Little Patuxent Pkwy.
Columbia, MD 21044
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
- Maryland Community Health Initiatives
Penn North Neighborhood Center
2410 Pennsylvania Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21217
Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- N Street Village, Wellness Center
1333 N. Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005
Tuesday, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. – 12 noon

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- Recovery in Community
31 North Fulton Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21223
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:45 a.m. – 11 a.m.;
Thursday 1:45 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Upon completion of a mandatory course, *Introduction to Addiction and Community Health*, students are required to spend a minimum of 60 hours at off-campus community clinic settings where they can gain experience in using acupuncture and life-skills treatment models for detoxification and support of overall health and wellness. The clinic experience will help each student develop skills in treating clients with compassion, as well as powerful listening skills. It will also allow them to learn how to achieve and maintain rapport with individual patients. A licensed acupuncturist employed by that agency and credentialed by Tai Sophia with a faculty appointment will supervise the students at each clinical site.

For additional information regarding one of the student clinics, contact:
Kathleen Crosland, Faculty Coordinator, 410-88-9048 ext. 6658 or kcrosland@tai.edu

For more information about Tai Sophia Institute, visit www.tai.edu.

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ABOUT TAI SOPHIA INSTITUTE

Tai Sophia Institute is the preeminent institution for wellness-based education, patient care, and public policy discourse. Founded in 1975 as a small healing arts clinic, the Institute has evolved into a diverse resource providing competitive academic programs and institutional partnerships. Tai Sophia is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and offers three graduate degrees in Acupuncture, Herbal Medicine, and Applied Healing Arts. The Master of Acupuncture program was the first training program to be accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine in the United States. In addition to the graduate curriculum, Tai Sophia offers continuing education, community wellness programs, and clinical services in acupuncture and herbal medicine. The Institute's faculty, staff, and students donate more than 15,000 community service hours to a variety of projects, and its practitioners provide more than 30,000 treatments yearly. The Institute empowers wellness leaders, business executives and communities to learn the art of caring for and serving one another. Its 12-acre main campus houses a bookstore, library, herb and meditation gardens. Tai Sophia Institute is a private, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

ABOUT CHASE BREXTON HEALTH SERVICES

Chase Brexton's primary objective in Columbia is to provide a health care home for everyone, regardless of his or her age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, current medical condition or socioeconomic status. A

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range of primary and preventive care, mental health and case management services are provided, including consultations in Integrative Medicine. Auricular Acupuncture is provided for stress relief.

ABOUT HEALTHCARE FOR THE HOMELESS

Healthcare for the Homeless provides health-related services, education and advocacy to reduce the incidence and burdens of homelessness in Maryland. A continuum of addiction services is provided ranging from street reach/outreach to auricular detox, outpatient treatment, and referral and placement in residential treatment programs. The program is based on a philosophical continuum, which integrates a harm reduction model with the abstinence based chronic disease model of addiction treatment.

ABOUT HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE WELLNESS CENTER

The Wellness Center empowers students to make informed decisions about their health, ultimately enhancing their wellbeing and quality of life. It offers a variety of services including acupuncture, massage, and zero balancing, provides educational materials, hosts educational workshops, plans awareness activities, and provides students with referrals as necessary. Auricular acupuncture detoxification is provided to support the campus community with enhanced health through stress reduction and recovery from addictions.

ABOUT MARYLAND COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVES, PENN NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

Founded by Tai Sophia Institute, Maryland CHI is committed to redefining health through services that incorporate the values of on-demand access, community/friendship as healing, acupuncture, movement, and nutrition as effective tools and substitutes for substance abuse. Practitioners bring a wealth of knowledge concerning health and wellbeing through complementary medicine to clients who are, primarily, individuals living with drug addictions and HIV/AIDS.

ABOUT N STREET VILLAGE WELLNESS CENTER

N Street Village empowers homeless and low-income women to claim their highest quality of life by offering a broad spectrum of services and advocacy in an atmosphere of dignity and respect. The Wellness Center is committed to treating the "whole person" – spiritual, physical, and mental – with a continuum of therapeutic and educational activities. Besides providing nursing triage and assistance in monitoring chronic disease, the Wellness Center operates a dental clinic, an eye clinic, and holistic therapies such as massage, yoga, auricular acupuncture, relaxation, and expressive therapies.

ABOUT RECOVERY IN COMMUNITY

Recovery in Community (RIC) is a community-based program with the goal of reducing substance abuse and related criminal activity in three communities of Southwest Baltimore (Boyd Booth, Fayette Street Outreach, and Franklin Square). This area was the setting for the book and TV miniseries, "The Corner." Clients live in group houses and attend the program five days a week. Tai Sophia provides the acupuncture aspect of the program, which also includes anger management, HIV education, and substance abuse education.

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