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## TWO LITTLE HANDS PRODUCTIONS CREATOR OF SIGNING TIME! NAMED A 2007 WORKING MOTHER BEST SMALL COMPANY BY WORKING MOTHER MAGAZINE

Creators of Signing Time! The Popular American Sign Language (ASL) DVD and Hit PBS TV Series Provides Mom-Friendly Work Environment

New York, NY (March 14, 2007)—Working Mother magazine today announced that Two Little Hands Productions, creator of the award-winning Signing Time! American Sign Language (ASL) DVD and hit PBS television series is a 2007 Working Mother Best Small Company. Launched in 2006, the Working Mother Best Small Companies initiative honors businesses with between five and 100 employees that are using innovative combinations of traditional and creative benefits to improve work/life balance.

"Two Little Hands Productions is exceptional for its commitment to working mothers, and Working Mother commends it for providing a model to small businesses across the country," said Carol Evans, CEO of Working Mother Media. "The common misconception is that small companies can't afford to provide generous employee benefits, but these innovators are proving that working mom-friendly policies and financial success go hand in hand."

"I congratulate Two Little Hands Productions for recognizing that helping moms balance work and family is a worthy and rewarding endeavor," added Suzanne Riss, Editor-in-Chief of *Working Mother* magazine.

Profiled in the April issue of *Working Mother* magazine, Two Little Hands Productions is celebrated for creating a work environment that is especially hospitable to all women, including working mothers. In using family-friendly policies, including flextime, childcare and telecommuting, to promote employee satisfaction and achievement, the Working Mother Best Small Companies are changing the way America does business.

Rachel and her sister Emilie decided to launch Two Little Hands Productions as a company that would help to create a "sign language community" enabling the hearing world to communicate with children like Rachel's daughter, Leah, who is deaf. Their first initiative was Signing Time! an entertaining video that teaches ASL through music and instruction to hearing children. They quickly realized how easy and fun it was for friends and family to learn this new language and how ASL was a valuable way to

communicate with someone that is deaf, has a special need or may be preverbal. In May 2002, the first volume of Signing Time! was completed with Rachel as the singing, signing host and starring 5-year-old Leah and 3-year-old Alex, Emilie's hearing son.

Since the successful debut of the first Signing Time video, Two Little Hands Productions has released thirteen award-winning Signing Time videos/DVDs for children and infants, along with a series of colorful hardcover books and engaging Flash Cards to reinforce the vocabulary skills learned from the DVDs, a Practice Time DVD series as well as the popular Signing Time! TV series that airs on PBS stations across the country

"We are proud to be chosen as a 2007 Working Mother Best Small Company for our commitment to helping our mom employees maintain a work/life balance. We could not be a successful company without the heartfelt support of the moms that work at Signing Time! and we look forward to sharing this honor with them," said Rachel de Azevedo Coleman, co-founder of Two Little Hands Productions.

## Methodology

Working Mother readers' nominated small companies with family-friendly benefits and a culture that helps employees balance their work and family needs. Companies were required to have between five and 120 employees. Editors scored more than 250 entries based primarily on three areas of emphasis: work/life benefits, entrepreneurial spirit and programs to help women advance

The complete list of the 2007 Working Mother Best Small Companies can be found at <a href="https://www.workingmother.com">www.workingmother.com</a>.

## **About Working Mother Magazine**

Founded in 1979, Working Mother magazine reaches nearly 3 million readers and is the only national magazine for career-committed mothers. Its 21-year signature initiative, Working Mother 100 Best Companies, is the most important benchmark for work/life practices in corporate America. The publication also releases the annual list of the Best Companies for Women of Color in the June issue. Working Mother is published by Working Mother Media (WMM), which also owns the National Association for Female Executives (NAFE), NAFE Magazine, the annual 100 Best Companies WorkLife Congress, as well as the Best Companies for Women of Color Multicultural Conference and regional Town Halls. In 2006, WMM acquired Diversity Best Practices and the Business Women's Network, making Working Mother Media the largest media company in the country focused on diversity and the advancement of women.

## **About Two Little Hands Productions**

Two Little Hands Productions is the company that produces and distributes Signing Time! a captivating and entertaining sign language DVD and video series and PBS television program created for the hearing community targeting children of ALL ages, including pre-verbal infants, and children of ALL abilities.. The series makes learning American Sign Language easy and fun for children and families.

Formed in Spring of 2002 by two sisters, Two Little Hands Productions was created and the first Signing Time video, My First Signs – featuring Leah and Alex – was released. Other titles in the series include Playtime Signs, Everyday Signs, Family, Feelings &Fun and ABCs, Leah's Farm, The Great Outdoors, Zoo Train, My Day, My Neighborhood,

Time to Eat, and Welcome to School. In addition to the DVD/video collection, the company released three board books and flashcards, My First Signs, Playtime Signs and Everyday Signs to reinforce the lessons learned in the accompanying DVDs/video. Two Little Hands' mission is to empower all children to communicate with sign language, regardless of ability. Two Little Hands Productions is located in Salt Lake City, Utah. Please visit us at: www.signingtime.com.