

For Immediate Release

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For More Information

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**National Disability Advocate Visits Misericordia,
Premier Caregiver for People with Developmental Disabilities**

CHICAGO - Julie Huso, Executive Director of [VOR](http://www.vor.net), a national, nonprofit organization advocating for high quality care and human rights for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, traveled to the Chicago-area to meet with representatives of [Misericordia](http://www.misericordia.org).



Located in Chicago, Misericordia is home to more than 600 children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, offering those in their care a community of support and opportunities.

“Misericordia is *home*, in every sense of that word, to the individuals who live there,” Huso said. “It is a special place.”

VOR was founded in the Chicago-area more than 30 years ago. Today, VOR offers advocacy support to families all around the country.

“Around the country, quality programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are being challenged by a perception of ‘home’ and ‘community’ that, in our view, is too focused on the bricks and mortar,” remarked Huso. “Misericordia and homes like it around the country may not be located in a neighborhood with 3-4 people and a white picket fence. But visit and you will witness a true community.”

Huso has traveled throughout Illinois and the country visiting programs like Misericordia that are providing specialized care to some of our nation’s most fragile citizens. Along the way she meets families who value their loved ones’ homes and who find VOR to be a uniquely supportive voice.

“We are the only national organization with a broad view of community, supporting homes small and large, while also providing families with the advocacy tools they need to be their family members’ best advocates,” explained Huso. “Families count on us.”

About VOR: VOR is a national organization that advocates for high quality care and human rights for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Offering community, legal, medical and educational resources for families of individuals with special needs, VOR is committed to providing help for people with disabilities. Standing up for long term care facilities and community disability programs, VOR is dedicated to maintaining family choice for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. For more information about VOR, please visit us at www.vor.net.