



NEWS RELEASE

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Annual CRT Head Start Parade May 4 Open to Public at Old State House *Nine Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey® Elephants Will Make for Mammoth Event*

HARTFORD—On Wednesday, May 4 nine elephants from *Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey® presents Fully Charged* will march along with more than 1,000 families from the Community Renewal Team, Inc. Head Start program from the rear of the XL Center to lawn side of the Old State House to salute this historic building and the work done here by America's forefathers as well as the end of the CRT Head Start year.

The elephants will have a healthy lunch to the delight of all passersby. Their route is listed below; **the pachyderm parade will start at approximately 11:25 a.m.**

The elephant march will culminate a morning of celebrating the end of the CRT school year and graduation from pre-school to Kindergarten for thousands of children enrolled in the CRT Head Start programs throughout the state. The children and their families will mark the occasion with a party in Bushnell Park beginning at 9 a.m. and ending with a walking parade from Bushnell Park to the Old State House for the performance by *The Greatest Show On Earth®* before and watching the elephants eat.

The party in the park will feature clowns, stilt walkers, circus performances, ice cream, African drummers, moon bounces, and loads of fun for everyone, in preparation for nine performances from May 4-8 at the XL Center in Hartford of *Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey® presents Fully Charged!*

Elephant Walk route: Exit the XL Center heading south on Ann Uccello Street, turn left on Asylum and walk east two blocks where they will cross Main Street and enter the State House Square grounds on the north side of the Old State House. The elephants will enter the grounds at the gate for their meal of fresh vegetables, fruit and bread donated by IGA Supermarkets.

Community Renewal Team, Inc. is the Community Action Agency for Middlesex and Hartford Counties and is the largest non-profit provider of human services in Connecticut. The agency's mission is *Preparing Our Community to Meet Life's Challenges. The mission is achieved each day by helping people and families become self-sufficient while making sure basic needs are met. CRT's programs include Head Start, Meals on Wheels, energy assistance, supportive housing and shelters, and many others, serving people in more than 60 cities and towns in both our core catchment area and throughout Connecticut.*

About Feld Entertainment, Inc.: *Feld Entertainment is one of the worldwide leaders in producing and presenting live entertainment experiences that lift the human spirit and create indelible memories, with 30 million people in attendance at its shows each year. Feld Entertainment's productions have appeared in more than 55 countries on six continents and include Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey®, Feld Motor Sports, Disney On Ice, and Disney Live!*