

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ombudsman Educational Services Earns Cognia System Accreditation

(Nashville, TN – March 31, 2022) – Ombudsman Educational Service, a ChanceLight company, has earned system accreditation by CogniaTM, a nonprofit organization that provides quality assurance for schools, school districts, and education service providers.

Cognia, formerly AdvancED, nationally recognizes districts that meet rigorous standards that focus on productive learning environments, equitable resource allocation that meet the needs of learners, and effective leadership. Earning accreditation from the Cognia Global Accreditation Commission means that the system and all of its schools are accredited, and that Ombudsman is recognized across the nation as a school system that meets Cognia Standards of Quality and maintains a commitment to continuous improvement.

"Systems accreditation as conferred by the Cognia Global Accreditation Commission has continued for years to provide Ombudsman a nationally recognized mark of quality for our school system and each school within our system," shared Emily Langfeldt, Chief Education Officer at ChanceLight. "It demonstrates to our community our commitment to excellence, our openness to external review and feedback, and our desire to be the best we can be on behalf of the students we serve."

To earn accreditation from Cognia, a school district also must implement a continuous process of improvement and submit to internal and external review. School systems in good standing can maintain their accreditation for a five-year term.

Dr. Mark A. Elgart, president, and CEO of Cognia, stated, "Cognia System Accreditation is a rigorous process that focuses the entire school system and its community on the primary goal of preparing lifelong learners in engaging environments where all students can flourish. Ombudsman is to be commended for demonstrating that it has met high standards, is making progress on key indicators that impact student learning."

Cognia is the parent organization of the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI). Parents and interested community members can learn more about the Cognia Accreditation at <u>cognia.org</u>.

About Cognia

Cognia offers accreditation and certification, assessment, professional learning, and improvement services to institutions and other education providers. The result of the merger of AdvancED and Measured Progress, Cognia was formed to bridge the gap between school evaluation and student assessment. As a global nonprofit working in over 80 countries, our 36,000 institutions serve and support nearly 25 million students and five million educators every day. Cognia serves as trusted partner in advancing learning for all learners.

About Ombudsman

Ombudsman Educational Services is a ChanceLight® company. ChanceLight, is the nation's leading provider of behavioral health, therapy and education solutions for children and young adults. Changing the direction of children's lives by offering the opportunity to create successful, independent futures.

Ombudsman Educational Services provides alternative education programs for high school students who have dropped out or who are at risk of dropping out of school. A flexible schedule with morning, afternoon, and in some cases, evening sessions means students do not have to choose between life and school. Ombudsman offers academic, social and behavioral support so that students earn their high school diplomas and are prepared to make positive choices about the future. Find out more at <u>www.education.chancelight.com</u> and at <u>www.ombudsman.com</u>