



For Immediate Release

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Oakland Family Services celebrates opening of Walled Lake preschool *Children's Learning Center is enrolling now; free tuition available!*

Pontiac, Mich. (Jan. 21, 2015) – There are now 96 more opportunities for at-risk children to obtain high-quality, free preschool in the Walled Lake area, following Oakland Family Services' Jan. 14 ribbon cutting and official opening of its new preschool. Oakland Family Services leadership along with Oakland Schools representatives, local government officials, and many of the people who helped make the preschool a reality were on hand for the celebration.

"This preschool was the culmination of so much hard work and dedication and will truly change lives for the children in this community," said Oakland Family Services President and CEO Jaimie Clayton, at the event.

The Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) center features six classrooms; a kitchen where the children's free breakfast, lunch and snack are prepared; and a natural playground that encourages scientific observation and creative play.

GSRP is the state-funded preschool program for 4-year-old children, in existence since 1987. Oakland Family Services has been providing the preschool program since 1996 at the Oakland Family Services Children's Learning Center Pontiac location, which holds 96 students. The focus of GSRP programs is to provide high-quality preschool programs to support readiness for children who may be at risk for arriving at kindergarten unprepared for the social and educational challenges. There is no cost for families enrolled in GSRP school programs.

"We are thrilled to be offering this educational opportunity to young students in another area of Oakland County," said Kris Kasperski, Director of Early Childhood Services. "This beautiful new center, our caring staff, and the curriculum, which inspires students, should be a great addition to the Walled Lake area."

Oakland Family Services is enrolling now through the beginning of February for open spots at the Walled Lake Children's Learning Center, located at 1885 North Pontiac Trail Road. Students must have turned 4 by Oct. 1, 2014 and must be Oakland County residents. Hours of instruction will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Contact Angela Liegghio at (248) 858-7766 ext. 254 or aliegghio@ofsfamily.org to enroll.

Oakland Family Services is a private, nonprofit 501 (c) (3) serving the community since 1921 and dedicated to providing individuals and families the opportunity to build brighter futures. The agency's prevention, education and treatment services touch the lives of more than 35,000 individuals throughout southeastern Michigan. The agency has offices in Pontiac, Berkley, Rochester Hills and Walled Lake. For more information go to www.oaklandfamilyservices.org.

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