

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

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Supervisor Chan, City of Alameda Celebrate Launch of Mobile Family Resource Center

City-Based Early Learning Initiative Focused on Supporting Alameda Children Ages 0-5

Alameda – On Wednesday, March 24th, Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan will join with Alameda Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, School Board Vice-President Jennifer Williams, and representatives from the City’s Early Learning Community Network (ELCN) to commemorate the launch of the Network’s new mobile Family Resource Center (FRC). The event is the culmination of a year-long, multi-stakeholder collaboration that required rapid changes and programmatic adjustments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The introduction of the mobile FRC will serve as a critical step towards fulfilling ELCN’s goal of connecting Alameda’s young children, their families, and service providers with the resources necessary to ensure school readiness for children ages 0-5. By eliminating barriers around transportation and accessibility, the FRC will provide access to critical learning activities, pre-K readiness assessments, and connections with other parents and caregivers throughout the community.

WHAT: Alameda Mobile Family Resource Center Launch & Press Event

WHO: Wilma Chan – Alameda County Supervisor, District 3
Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft – Mayor, City of Alameda
Jennifer Williams – Vice-President, Alameda Unified School District Board
Katherine Schwartz – Executive Director, Alameda Family Services
Additional Stakeholders, Participants, and Community Members

WHEN: Wednesday, March 24, 2021
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM

WHERE: College of Alameda
Parking Lot A
555 Ralph Appezato Memorial Parkway
Oakland, CA 94501

Formed in 2019, the Alameda ELCN represents a multi-sector collaboration between the City of Alameda, Alameda Collaborative for Children, Youth, and their Families (ACCYF), Alameda Unified School District, Alameda Family Services, and many other

community-wide stakeholders. The mobile FRC and other forthcoming ELCN initiatives have stemmed from the City's Early Learning Action Plan, which seeks to improve educational outcomes for young children by offering accessible, compassionate, and targeted resources that will support new parents from Day 1.

"The launch of the mobile Family Resource Center is an ideal example of what can be accomplished through community collaboration and dedication towards ensuring better futures for our children," said Supervisor Chan. "Thanks to this innovative partnership, the City of Alameda will be able to better provide children and families with the resources necessary to lead successful, productive lives."

"The mobile FRC will provide Alameda's youngest children with greater access to essential learning activities, resources for families of the City's young learners, and connections between parents and caregivers throughout the Island," said Mayor Ashcraft. "In addition, the FRC will remove barriers by allowing our City's wonderful service providers to reach Alameda families who may not have access to transportation."

The mobile FRC and other associated ELCN activities are funded by a series of three grants provided by First 5 Alameda County, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of all County children from birth to age 5. This includes an 18-month program grant totaling \$135,000, a \$45,000 facilities grant to fund the physical FRC van, and a Community Resilience Grant of \$30,000 that has allowed for the hiring of paid interns and the purchasing of program materials.

"This innovative partnership between the Alameda ELCN and the Alameda Unified School District will better prepare our youngest learners for success," said School Board Vice-President Jennifer Williams. "By assisting families with early vision, hearing, and behavioral health screenings, the ELCN will help ensure all of our young children have the wraparound supports they need to be ready for kindergarten."

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About Supervisor Wilma Chan

Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan represents District 3, which includes the cities of Alameda, San Leandro, parts of Oakland including Chinatown, Jack London, Fruitvale and San Antonio neighborhoods, and the unincorporated communities of San Lorenzo and Hayward Acres. She is currently Chair of the Health Committee, Unincorporated Services Committee, and ALL IN Steering Committee, and a member of the County's Personnel, Administrative, and Legislative Committee, Budget Workgroup, and Ad Hoc Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights. For more on Supervisor Chan's accomplishments and initiatives, please visit www.acgov.gov/board/district3 or connect on Facebook with "Supervisor Wilma Chan."