



Community *Family Center*

Building Today for a Strong Tomorrow

The Community Family Center at a Glance

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WHO

• The Community Family Center will serve children and families that live or work in Highland Park-Highwood. The center will house five existing child and family service agencies that collectively have provided over 200 years of outstanding service. Participating agencies are Family Network; Family Service: Prevention, Education & Counseling; Highland Park Community Nursery School & Day Care Center; Highland Park-Highwood Home Child Care Association; and Tri-Con Child Care Center. As the needs of our community have grown, the space and quality of facilities for each agency has not been able to keep up with the need.

WHAT

- A 38,375 square-foot renovated building
- LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified
- A variety of indoor space for programs and activities
- Outdoor space for children's playgrounds and gardens
- Parking lot

WHERE

- In the heart of downtown Highland Park
- 1850 Green Bay Road (former Karger Center)
- Between Sunset Park and the Lake County Health Clinic

WHY

- **There is a tremendous need for affordable services in Highland Park-Highwood:**
 - 19% of students in North Shore School District 112 are Latino and from low income homes (ISBE Report Card)
 - Approximately 1,100 families in Highland Park-Highwood earn less than \$40,000 (ESRI Population Data)
 - 48% of families with children under six in Highland Park-Highwood are two-parent working families (Census)
 - Current infant and toddler child care capacity meets only 46% of the need (IFF Survey)
- **There are many benefits of an integrated site for children, families and staff:**
 - An integrated service site enables agencies to work together more effectively and efficiently
 - There are positive long term effects associated with quality early childhood programs
 - Access to a formal support network is one of the factors that reduce the likelihood that stressful experiences will result in a family crisis



WHAT WILL BE THERE

The Community *Family Center* will be a model of comprehensive human services:

- **Clinical Services** – child, adult, senior, couple and family counseling; employee assistance programs
- **Community Services** - ESL classes, consultation and training, community education
- **Early Childhood and Children's Services** – preschool, child care, summer camp, home visitation, baby and me, before and after school care, home child care network and provider training
- **Family Support** – prenatal and parenting education, drop-in program, referrals to community resources

HOW MANY WILL BE SERVED

- 3,540 participants annually
- Child care provided for an additional 103 infants, toddlers and preschoolers, for a total of 268 slots
- More than 100 employees, many of whom are bilingual

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST

- \$14.5 million for construction plus ongoing operations and maintenance of the building

WHEN

- Construction is anticipated to begin fall 2010
- Community Family Center building set to open in summer 2011

www.communityfamilycenter.org