



District 1 Supervisor Phil Serna

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**SOUTH OAK PARK / FRUITRIDGE POCKET RIVER OAK BIRTH & BEYOND
FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER GRAND OPENING**

Ribbon cutting ceremony, brief speaking program and tours

Sacramento, CA -- Sacramento County Supervisor Phil Serna, along with other local elected officials and community partners, will participate in a ribbon cutting celebration to showcase River Oak Center for Children's new Birth & Beyond Family Resource Center in the heart of the South Oak Park/Fruitridge Pocket neighborhood. The event takes place on **Thursday, February 2, at 10 a.m. at 4625 44th Street, room 36.**

Speakers include Supervisor Serna; Cynthia Woods, River Oak Center for Children Executive Board President; Jessie Ryan, Sacramento City Unified School District Board member; and Sheila Boxley, President and CEO of the Child Abuse Prevention Center. Facility tours and program explanations will be offered.

In 2015, Serna and the Board of Supervisors appropriated \$350,000 in Community Investment Funds to assist River Oak with facility renovations including flooring, wall resurfacing, paint and furniture for classrooms. Funds were also used to relocate, plumb and power a portable modular building owned by the Sacramento City Unified School District. River Oak's Family Resource Center is among a dozen local nonprofit agencies currently operating at the Fruit Ridge Community Collaborative (formerly Fruit Ridge Elementary School which closed in 2013).

Following a nearly two-year effort to implement his proposal to relocate River Oak in order to serve more families, Supervisor Serna stated, "The continued success of this Family Resource Center is critically important to the South Oak Park/Fruitridge Pocket community. With more space to serve my constituents, and the synergistic alignment with all the other great programs now offered through the Collaborative, this marks yet another measure of progress in our efforts to improve residents' quality of life in this corner of Sacramento County."

River Oak Center for Children serves more than 1,100 children and youth and their families in Sacramento County a day. Most families are low-income, and 90% are Medi-Cal eligible. In addition to behavioral health treatment, River Oak works to prevent child abuse and neglect in the community. The Birth & Beyond Family Resource Center serves pregnant women with parent education classes, home visitation, and crisis intervention when needed. Visit www.riveroak.org for more information.

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