



THE CENTER
at Sierra Health Foundation



**BLACK CHILD
LEGACY**
CAMPAIGN

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEADOWVIEW COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER TO STOP VIOLENCE

Local leaders and residents to hold news conference and community peace walk

Sacramento, CA – After a weekend that saw multiple shootings in the Meadowview and Oak Park neighborhoods, community leaders are mobilizing residents, faith leaders and elected officials to join together with a shared commitment to stop the violence and end the needless loss of young lives.

Co-led by Les Simmons, pastor of the South Sacramento Christian Center in Valley Hi, and Jackie Rose, CEO of Focus on Family Foundation in Meadowview, community members will hold a news conference on Thursday, Aug. 31, at 5 p.m. at Meadowview Park, 7760 24th St. in Sacramento. Both Pastor Simmons and Ms. Rose will speak at the event.

Guest speakers are expected to include Greg King from Always Knocking; Berry Accius from Voices of the Youth; members of Genesis Missionary Baptist Church, Shiloh Baptist Church and This is Pentecost Fellowship Ministries; and Sacramento Police Chief Daniel Hahn.

“The event of last Sunday, ending in the death of a good man who leaves behind a loving daughter, has moved us to new action in supporting each other’s efforts to stop violence,” said Pastor Les Simmons. “Today we stand in solidarity in saying the violence has to stop.”

In addition, a peace walk will be held on Friday, Sept. 1, at 7 p.m. at the corner of Meadowview Road and 24th Street. Organizers are encouraging community members and elected officials to join the walk to show their support for the neighborhood and its families.

“In Meadowview, we are working tirelessly to support our community to ensure the safety of our children,” said Jackie Rose. “This was an isolated incident and we believe that Meadowview Park is safe and should be enjoyed by our community.”

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“Tragedies like this affect not only the victims and their families, but the entire community,” said Sacramento Police Chief Daniel Hahn. “We must come together against the violence that tears at the fabric of our community, creating fear and uncertainty. We stand with our community to express our sorrow for the victims and our commitment to creating healthy and safe neighborhoods.”

South Sacramento Christian Center and Focus on Family Foundation are two of the seven Community Incubator Lead organizations for the Black Child Legacy Campaign, the community-driven movement raising visibility and strengthening efforts of the Steering Committee on Reduction of African American Child Deaths to reduce the number of black child mortalities by 10% to 20% in 2020 in Sacramento County. For 20 years, the Sacramento County Child Death Review Team has consistently found that African-American children died at a rate two times higher than children of other races.

All Community Incubator Leads are supportive of an opportunity to engage community members in a conversation to reduce violence in each of the seven targeted neighborhoods of Arden Arcade, Del Paso Heights/North Sacramento, Fruitridge/Stockton, Meadowview, North Highlands/Foothill Farms, Oak Park, Valley Hi.

Learn more about the Black Child Legacy Campaign at www.blackchildlegacy.org and the Steering Committee on RAACD at www.shfcenter.org/raacd.

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The Steering Committee on Reduction of African American Child Deaths is funded by the County of Sacramento, City of Sacramento and First 5 Sacramento, and is managed by The Center.