Roberts Family Development Center and The Center at Sierra Health Foundation Announce Fiscal and Operational Capacity-Building Partnership

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Today, Roberts Family Development Center (RFDC) and The Center at Sierra Health Foundation (The Center) announced an agreement to provide fiscal and operational support to RFDC through The Center.

This agreement follows a meeting between RFDC staff and board leadership and The Center executive staff in response to recently revived questions about a now-settled 2017 lawsuit involving RFDC, as well as the rapid growth of the organization. As a first step to understanding the needs and operational structure of RFDC, an initial assessment will determine needs and best resources to build long-term operational capacity of the local community nonprofit organization.

“Roberts Family Development Center proudly serves 700 students every day of the week, including the summer months,” said Derrell Roberts, CEO, and Tina Roberts, co-founders of Roberts Family Development Center. “This partnership will allow us to focus our efforts on the quality of services offered while working with a respected community institution to develop our fiscal capacity.”

Roberts Family Development Center was founded in 2001 to provide academic wrap-around services to students in North Sacramento. Over the years, they have expanded to provide services for families through after-school and parent empowerment programs, the nation’s largest Freedom School summer learning program, youth and community popup events, peer support for teens and integrated community education and engagement.

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“Strong, trusted community organizations are necessary to building and sustaining healthy and thriving neighborhoods in a city committed to creating opportunity for all,” said Chet P. Hewitt, president and CEO of Sierra Health Foundation and The Center. “Accordingly, we are committed to ensuring the nonprofit sector – including valued community contributors like Roberts Family Development Center – are best prepared to do their part to advance social and economic equality and justice. Today, we continue our long history of building the organizational capacity of community organizations to meet this critical mission.”

The Center at Sierra Health Foundation serves as an intermediary for diverse public and private partnerships throughout the state, including those among community groups, business leaders, government leadership, law enforcement, health plans and other sectors. The Center focuses on health and racial equity through programs and grantmaking practices centering community experience and leadership.

“In navigating the dynamics of a successful model of youth leadership and support of immediate community needs, there is often a lack of support to equip organizations to manage rapid growth,” said Toni Greenwell, board chair of Roberts Family Development Center. “This partnership will provide the opportunity to gauge organizational needs and develop a long-term strategy for sustained development.”

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ABOUT THE CENTER AT SIERRA HEALTH FOUNDATION AND ROBERTS FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER:

The Center at Sierra Health Foundation works to promote health and racial equity in communities throughout California with local, state and national partners. Learn more at shfccenter.org.

Roberts Family Development Center’s mission is to provide services to the Greater Sacramento area that meet the individual needs of each family member. Learn more at robertsfdc.org.