



OREGON CHILD DEVELOPMENT COALITION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oregon Child Development Coalition's Marion and Polk County Centers Celebrate 40th Anniversary

WILSONVILLE, ORE. – September 9, 2011 – On Friday, September 16, 2011 the Oregon Child Development Coalition (OCDC), a nonprofit organization, will host a luncheon in Salem from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. and an after work party in Independence from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the organization's 40th Anniversary.

"We are excited to bring the community together to celebrate what OCDC brings to Salem and Independence," said Gwyn Bachtle, Program Director, for Polk County. "OCDC is celebrating 40 years and what better way to celebrate than invite the community to a luncheon and after work event," said Bachtle.

Forty years ago orchard families came together after a young child was killed in a tragic orchard accident to form what is now OCDC. Since then the organization has provided a safe and educational environment for the children of the families OCDC serves.

The Salem Center serves 90 migrant children from May to October. The center has 6 migrant classrooms, ranging from infant to preschool and is open Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The center also serves 40 early head start children in 5 classrooms year round with 45 weeks of service and from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Independence Center serves 100 migrant children from June to September. The center has 6 classrooms, ranging from infant to preschool and is open Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The center also serves 38 seasonal preschool children in two classrooms from March through October and 24 early head start children in three classrooms year round with 45 weeks of service from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Together OCDC and the community work to provide migrant and seasonal families the services they need in the community. The families OCDC serves are key elements to this area's economy and the centers in Salem and Independence are vital to providing education and care for their children.

The celebrations will showcase the facility, classrooms, program and staff. Both are open to the public and located at 4666 Lancaster Dr. Salem, OR 97301 and 535 "G" St. Independence, OR 97351. A short program will begin at 12:30 p.m. along with a cold lunch in Salem and at 5:30 p.m. in Independence with light refreshments.

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These are OCDC's last counties to host and celebrate the organization's 40th Anniversary. On October 8th at the Oregon Zoo OCDC will conclude its 40th year with a Gala event.

OCDC specializes in providing quality early childhood education and care for children ages birth to five, who come from working families with incomes below or at the poverty level. The goal is to help these children become ready for kindergarten, and also to provide health, education, parent involvement, mental health, nutrition and social services.

For more information about the event please contact Anthony Veliz at aveliz@izomarketing.com.

For more information about OCDC please visit www.ocdc.net and "like us" at www.facebook.com/ocdc.oregon.

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The Oregon Child Development Coalition (OCDC) is an established private nonprofit corporation that serves children and their families through Migrant and Seasonal Head Start (MSHS), Migrant and Seasonal Early Head Start (MSEHS), Oregon Pre-Kindergarten (OPK) and Oregon Early Head Start (OEHS). As one of the largest education and early care networks in Oregon, OCDC is dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through Preparing children for school, Promoting economic opportunities families and communities, Partnering and collaborating and Practicing inclusiveness.