



OREGON CHILD DEVELOPMENT COALITION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Birthplace of Migrant Head Start Celebrates 40th Anniversary

WILSONVILLE, ORE. – August 12, 2011 – On Tuesday, August 30, 2011 the Oregon Child Development Coalition (OCDC), a nonprofit organization, will welcome the community to the OCDC Parkdale Community Center from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. for an open house, 40th Anniversary Celebration.

“We are excited to open our doors and celebrate with the community what our center brings to Parkdale,” said Jennifer Ericksen de Heredia, Program Director, Hood River and Wasco Counties. “OCDC is celebrating 40 years and what better way to celebrate than invite the community to the “birthplace” of where it all began,” said Heredia.

Forty years ago orchard families came together after a young child was killed in a tragic orchard accident. This group formed the Parkdale Child Development Center and eventually Migrant Head Start. Today the Parkdale Community Center is a safe place for the children of the families OCDC serves.

The Parkdale Community Center serves 72 migrant children from July to October and provides Migrant Head Start. The center has six classrooms, ranging from infant to preschool and is open Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Together OCDC and the community work to provide migrant families the services they need in the community. During “off” hours the building is used by the community for local organizations to have meetings and events. The building also houses the Parkdale branch of the Hood River County Library. In addition to the Parkdale Center, OCDC also operates a center in Odell that operates up to five classrooms year-round, serving an additional 132 Migrant, Seasonal and Migrant Early Head Start children each year.

The Parkdale Community Center is vital to providing services for children during the summer harvest, which is a key element of this area’s economy. The celebration will showcase the facility, classrooms, program and staff. It is open to the public and located at 7300 Clear Creek Rd. Parkdale, OR. A short program will begin at 6:30 p.m.

This is OCDC’s ninth county to host and celebrate the organizations 40th Anniversary. Celebrations will continue through the month of September and end with a Gala event October 8th at the Oregon Zoo.

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.

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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
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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.