



## **MEDIA ALERT – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Media Contact:**

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### **Grand Opening – Franklin-McKinley Children's Initiative (FMCI) Community Center**

Community members, families, children, service providers, San Jose Jazz's Progressions Youth Band, Sabrocito Band, FIRST 5, and more.

Featured speakers include:

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County CEO Gregory R. Kepferle

Mayor Sam Liccardo

Former Vice Mayor Madison Nguyen

Councilmember Tam Nguyen

Franklin Superintendent School District Juan Cruz

Former Franklin Superintendent School District Dr. John Porter

### **WHAT:**

### **WHO:**

### **WHEN:**

### **WHERE:**

### **ACTIVITIES:**

Saturday, March 26, 2016, 11:00 am-1:00 pm

1399 Santee Drive, Bldg 2 San José, CA 95122; Parking at Santee Elementary 1313 Audubon Dr., San Jose, CA 95121

A gathering of neighborhood families to a space they can call their own. Family activities include: concert, light lunch, ribbon cutting, community resource fair, and more.

**Grand Opening – Franklin-McKinley Children's Initiative (FMCI) Community Center**  
Santee Neighborhood Now Has A New Place Where Families Can Thrive

**SAN JOSE, CA, March 24, 2016** – San José families now have a new place to convene, find resources, and receive adult and youth educational programming from ESL to youth mentoring and leadership. The **new Franklin-McKinley Children’s Initiative (FMCI) Community Center** is open to the public. Please join us for this momentous event!

The FMCI Community Center is located in the heart of the Santee neighborhood and has been a resident priority for 15 years. It has a dedicated classroom and is a place for community meetings, learning, and youth asset creation. Residents can obtain resources, build healthy relationships, and families can thrive at the Center.

The new Community Center was made possible through collaboration between Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County’s Franklin McKinley Children’s Initiative; current and former FMCI Steering Committee members; City of San José; Franklin McKinley School District; Santa Clara County Office of Education; Skool Foundation; Social Services; Silicon Valley Community Foundation; and support from Santee community members.

The Santee neighborhood has long served as a port of entry for newly arriving immigrants entering the United States to find their first home. Families will now find a wholesome, community gathering place that will be available to them for resources, community classes, and much more.

**About Franklin McKinley Children’s Initiative (FMCI)**

The Franklin McKinley Children’s Initiative (FMCI) was launched to assist with the transformation of neighborhoods and the schools in the Franklin-McKinley School District. The community working with FMCI has identified and implemented improvements that help deter crime and gang activity through improved lighting and safety around schools, community gardens, and improvements to facilities of nonprofit agencies serving FMCI neighborhoods.

**About Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County**

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County has worked to strengthen families and build economic self-reliance for the poor and vulnerable in the county for 60 years. Each year, more than 500 employees and 1,000 volunteers serve more than 54,000 individuals of all cultures and beliefs through 42 programs in more than 80 sites. Program areas include behavioral health, youth and family services, economic development, employment, financial education, housing, immigration legal services, in-home and long-term care, older adult services, refugee resettlement, refugee foster care, and more. Catholic Charities is working to reduce poverty with social change goals that target the alleviation, prevention, and reduction of poverty in our communities.

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