



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GROUNDBREAKING FOR NEW JCYS FAMILY CENTER

Construction Begins for New Early Childhood Education Center in Wicker Park

WHAT: Groundbreaking of Michael R. Lutz Family Center in Wicker Park

WHEN: Tuesday, July 21, 2015: 6 pm

WHERE: JCYS Michael R. Lutz Family Center Construction Site
2129 W. North Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60647

Jewish Council for Youth Services (JCYS) will be breaking ground for a new Early Childhood Education Center in Chicago's Wicker Park/Bucktown neighborhood on Tuesday, July 21, at 6pm. The new Michael R. Lutz Family Center will operate alongside the existing Michael R. Lutz Family Center in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood, the George W. Lutz Family Center in Highland Park, and Northwest Family Center in Buffalo Grove, bringing the total number of the agency's Early Childhood Education Centers to four.

"JCYS has a proud tradition of providing high-quality Early Childhood Education, recreational and Summer camp programs throughout the Chicagoland area," said JCYS Board President Jeffery Heftman. "Wicker Park and Bucktown are vibrant neighborhoods in which young professionals are settling down and starting families. The addition of a fourth Family Center will enable us to expand our services to this market. We look forward to building new relationships with families in the community as their children benefit from our unique and enriching programs."

The new Family Center, which is scheduled to open in October 2016, will offer Infant and Toddler Care for ages 15-24 months, Full and Half Day Preschool Education for ages 3-4, Kindergarten Enrichment, After School and Vacation Day programs for grades K-6, and Summer Day Camps programs for ages 15 months to Grade 8. Serving families of all faiths, the new Family Center will offer the same Jewish programs offered at other JCYS locations. These include family Shabbat dinners, Purim and Chanukah festivities, and large-scale gatherings for collaborative activities throughout the year.

Summit Design + Build, LLC is providing general contracting services for the 12,000 square foot, two-story building which will feature seven classrooms, staff offices and a second floor outdoor play area. Chicago-based OKW Architects is the architect for the project.

For information about programming at Michael R. Lutz Family Center, contact Director of Chicago Operations Jean Sellmyer Losek at (773) 281-2533 or jlosek@jcys.org, or visit www.jcys.org.

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Jewish Council for Youth Services (JCYS) offers educational, recreational and leadership experiences throughout the year at our family centers, multiple summer camps and specialty programs to families of all religions and backgrounds. Programs are designed to nurture each child's individual spirit, imagination, confidence and talents.