

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, September 10, 2019 MEDIA CONTACT: Ashley Glas, Marketing and Communications Manager (312) 726-8891, ext. 104 aglas@jcys.org

JCYS to Hold Dedication for New Family Center Event to Feature Tours, Child-friendly Activities, and Ceremony

CHICAGO (September 10, 2019) – Jewish Council for Youth Services (JCYS) announced it will hold a dedication event at its newest early childhood facility, The Iris and Steven Podolsky Family Center, on Sunday, September 15, from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. The family center, located at 2112 W. Lawrence Ave., will officially open to the public for the dedication.

The event will feature personal and group tours given by JCYS staff, along with childfriendly activities that showcase the new classrooms. The event will also include the unveiling of donor-funded projects, including the Butterfly Sculpture, the Past Presidents' Playroom, the Sensory Path, and the Community Room. The program will begin at 4:00 p.m. with a blessing and mezuzah ceremony, followed by remarks from senior JCYS leadership.

The Iris and Steven Podolsky Family Center, located in Lincoln Square Ravenswood, will fill the gap in Jewish education and early childhood programming that currently exists in the area. The 18,000 square foot center features seven classrooms, two large indoor playrooms, and a sensory path, and is adjacent to the local favorite Vogle Park. During the school year, the center will provide half- and full-day programming to children age 15 months through five years. During the summer, program offerings will be expanded to children in grades K-8.

"Our team has been working hard to build a state-of-the-art facility for our families. We are so grateful to everyone who has helped make this building a reality for our agency," said JCYS Chief Executive Officer Barbara Haworth. "We have attended to every detail so that this will truly be a center for families. We have dedicated indoor play space that will serve our kids during the day and the community on evenings and weekends. Our kids and community will always have a place to play, gather, and call home."

For more information on the dedication of the Iris and Steven Podolsky Family Center, contact Barbara Haworth, Chief Executive Officer, at (312) 726-8891 or <u>bhaworth@jcys.org</u>. RSVP required to attend.

About Jewish Council for Youth Services (JCYS): <u>JCYS</u> offers educational and recreational 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.