



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The B.C. McCabe Foundation Contributes \$100,000 to Support Intercommunity Child Guidance Center's Early Childhood Program

WHITTIER, Calif.—The B.C. McCabe Foundation has awarded Intercommunity Child Guidance Center (ICGC) a \$100,000 grant to help fund the agency's "*Early Attachments...that last a Lifetime* Infant-Toddler Center," that will provide social and mental health programs for infants, ages 0-3, and their families.

"The first 36 months of an infant's life are critical to establishing healthy parent-child bonds and building high levels of self-esteem that will impact the child for the rest of his or life," said ICGC Executive Director Charlene Dimas-Peinado, whose agency provides mental health and social services for children and their families throughout the greater Whittier area.

"Nationally, one in five children enters the foster care system before their first birthday. Therefore, early intervention is key to helping parents become better parents and provide a healthy, loving environment for their infants," she said.

The Infant-Toddler Center, a partnership with Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital in Whittier, provides an early intervention and prevention program for families with infants at-risk for abuse, neglect or foster care placement with the goal of decreasing that risk by providing services aimed at fulfilling the well-being of the entire family system.

The Center will help to promote positive parenting, improve child health development and prevent abuse and neglect by offering a combination of medical, mental health and social services. Staff will work with at-risk families to identify any relationship issues following the birth of the child. Immediate intervention will help to resolve issues early on and avoid mental-health challenges later in life.

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About ICGC

Intercommunity Child Guidance Center is a therapeutic treatment agency providing comprehensive mental health and social services for children with emotional and behavioral problems. Since 1957, ICGC has strengthened families through education, early intervention and treatment. ICC serves more than 4,900 children and families annually from the communities of Whittier, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs, La Mirada, Norwalk, Montebello, Los Nietos and La Habra heights. They are located at 10155 Colima Road, Whittier, CA, 90603. For more information, visit www.intercommunity.org.