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Toberman Announces

Grand Opening of new FamilySource Center

--City-sponsored center to provide a renewed sense of hope for struggling families--

SAN PEDRO, Calif. (December 21, 2009)--Toberman Neighborhood Center announces the Grand Opening of its new FamilySource Center on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 11 a.m. The ceremony will be held at Toberman Neighborhood Center, 131 North Grand Ave., San Pedro, Calif. Toberman representatives, along with the non-profit organization's community partners, including City Councilwoman Janice Hahn and members of the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce, will cut the ribbon to commemorate the opening of the only FamilySource Center in the South Bay Harbor area.

The FamilySource Center program is sponsored by the City of Los Angeles Development Department to deliver anti-poverty efforts and policy initiatives to reverse rising poverty rates. The FamilySource Center will feature a "one-stop shop" of personalized social, educational, recreational, community and workforce development services that address the economic crises currently facing community members: the rise of poverty and the fall of median household incomes.

"This is the first time a City-funded program will utilize a social work model to provide services," said Gloria Lockhart, president and CEO of Toberman Neighborhood Center. "In providing these services, we will work with the entire family, rather than just single individuals, who may come in for help. The field is also clearly moving toward measureable outcomes using the logic model, and this Center is a leading example."

The FamilySource Center will focus on two outcomes: increasing families' incomes, and increasing youth academic success--both proven methods to meet Toberman's mission of moving people from poverty to self sufficiency. Toberman, along with the Boys and Girls Club of the South Bay; Gang Alternative Program; Catholic Charities; YWCA; and Public Counsel, received a \$1 million dollar grant from the City of Los Angeles to help a minimum of 2,240 individuals over a 12-month period. Services will include individualized case management, pre-employment and employment training, financial literacy, education, legal services, counseling, tutoring, mentoring, recreation, and much more.

By mid-January, twenty-one FamilySource Center areas will be open and delivering coordinated, outcome-driven services to the most vulnerable residents in the most impoverished areas of the City. It is projected that FamilySource Center programs will serve more than 50,000 individuals in 2010.

Community members are invited to join in the opening celebration and tour the facility. Cookies and Punch will be provided by the Toberman Auxiliary. For more information, contact Toberman at 310-832-1145, ext. 120, or visit www.toberman.org.

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