



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8/31/17:

**Child Center Opens School Year with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in Far Rockaway
Revitalized Redfern Community Center Reopens, Offers Programming for All Ages**

Media Contact: Eugénie Bisulco, Vice President of Communications;
eugeniebisulco@childcenterny.org, 917-933-6833 (o), 917-717-1020 (c)

NEW YORK, NY - In March, The Child Center of NY became the new provider for the Redfern Cornerstone Community Center in Far Rockaway, Queens.

For years, children and adults alike have looked to Redfern, a Cornerstone program of the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development, for a safe and fun place to come together, and many local parents depend on the site while they are at work during the critical afterschool hours. Redfern closed abruptly earlier this year, when the Police Athletic League became unable to continue as the Center's provider. That was when DYCD asked The Child Center of NY to assume that role, which was accepted without hesitation. After a few weeks of closure while facility issues were addressed and qualified staff were hired, Redfern reopened in July to host 52 kids for summer camp.

"Far Rockaway, and the area surrounding the Redfern Houses in particular, may be underserved, but it is not undeserving," said CEO Traci Donnelly. "The Child Center will continue to offer the afterschool enrichment, adult programming, and sense of community that Redfern has been known for, and we will continue to make certain that it reflects the proud and vibrant spirit palpable throughout the neighborhood."

On September 8, 2017, at 4:00 p.m., please join us for an official ribbon cutting ceremony at the Redfern Cornerstone Community Center. Members of the media are kindly requested to call 917-717-1020 to RSVP.

After the ceremony, more than 100 bookbags generously donated by Astoria Bank and Keller Williams Realty, will be distributed to Redfern and Beach 41st children as part of The Child Center of NY's annual backpack drive.

About The Child Center of NY: The Child Center of NY's mission is to strengthen children and families with skills, opportunities, and emotional support to build healthy, successful lives. Founded in 1953, it is a multiservice organization that annually reaches more than 26,000 children from birth through young adulthood at more than 60 school and community locations. The Child Center works in five main program areas: early childhood education; behavioral health; prevention and family support; health homes and integrated care; and youth development. The Child Center is based primarily in Queens but also serves children and families in Brooklyn, the Bronx, and Manhattan. To learn more, please visit www.childcenterny.org

Get more updates from us on social media:

