



PHOTO OPPORTUNITY & MEDIA ALERT

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UCC Hosts Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting for the Ricardo Diaz Early Learning Academy:

WHAT: To provide bright futures for our students UCC is celebrating the opening of our \$12 million *Ricardo Diaz Early Learning Academy*. The center is named after retired long-time UCC executive director, Ricardo Diaz, and honors his eternal optimism and lifelong commitment to improving the lives of community youths. Much more than a physical building, *the Early Learning Academy* will transform the lives of children ages 6 weeks to 3 years old and their families. At this state of the art, 42,000 square foot center, more than 300 children from primarily low-income families will receive the promising educational foundation they deserve. The center's Kindergarten readiness curriculum, focused on language literacy, social and emotional development, cognitive and fine motor skills, will ensure students are on the path to lifelong success.

WHEN: Thursday, June 4th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

- *Tours: 10:15 a.m. (Registration required)*
- *Short Program & Ribbon Cutting: 11:15 a.m.*
- *Tours: 11:45 a.m. (Registration required)*

WHO: In attendance will be the UCC Board of Directors & leadership team, project donors, Ricardo Diaz, elected officials, the construction & architecture teams, special guests, and the media.

Media interested in scheduling a tour/interview should contact Emma Koenig, ekoenig@unitedcc.org.

WHERE: Ricardo Diaz Early Learning Academy: 2130 W Becher Street. Limited Street Parking Available.

PHOTOS: Enjoy an up-close opportunity to see the new facility complete with an expansive indoor playground, and outdoor tricycle track. Witness the ribbon cutting, announcing the center's name, and official opening, as well as a new era of education for Southside Milwaukee children.

SAFETY: Attendees must wear a mask. Each guest will be required to have their temperature scanned upon entering the facility, and protective shoe covers will be provided.

About the UCC Early Learning Academy:

The UCC Early Learning Academy is a state-of-the-art learning center focused on kindergarten readiness with a strong early childhood education curriculum that will serve as a model for Milwaukee and the nation. Located in one of the most impoverished zip codes in Milwaukee, the ELA will help ensure the community has access to critically important early education. Currently more than 60% of Latino children in Wisconsin do not have access to quality early childhood programs and often begin kindergarten two years behind their counterparts.

About United Community Center:

The United Community Center (UCC) provides programs to Hispanics and near South side residents of all races and ages in education, cultural arts, recreation, community development and health and human services in an effort to help individuals achieve their potential by focusing on cultural heritage as a means of personal development.