

For Immediate Release

Family Resource Center
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Chief Operations Officer, Leslie Reece, Retires After 28 Years

November 14, 2024

(Stockton, CA) On Friday, November 1st, 2024, Chief Operations Officer, Leslie Reece retired from Family Resource Center. Ms. Reece has accepted an advisory role with the organization through December of 2025 to assist with the transition of programs and services.

Ms. Reece has been with the organization for 28 years and began as a Technical Assistant in the Subsidized Child Care Department, and soon became a Supervisor. Ms. Reece was promoted to a Quality Control Manager in 2002, and then became the Manager of Quality Control and Subsidized Child Care in 2003. In 2008, she became the Director of Program Services, and in 2016 she became the first ever Chief Operations Officer for FRC as the organization diversified services. Additionally, Leslie served on CAPP (now Thriving Families California), a professional association, Board of Directors for six years and served as the Public Policy Committee Co-Chair. She has been the public member of the Administrative Review Panel (ARP) for the Department of Education since 2002 and serves on the ARP for the California Department of Social Services since 2021.

Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Kay G. Ruhstaller, stated, “Leslie has a long list of accomplishments to be proud of including: the integration of services after merging with Charterhouse Center for Families. Leslie was on the grant team that wrote for Family Resource Center’s CA State Funded Preschool, and she championed Joan Richards Learning Village for the last nine years, since it’s opening. Leslie was responsible for helping write the CCTR and Early Head Start Child Care Partnership applications which we were successfully awarded. Leslie was also responsible for the operation of the Teen Impact Center for the City of Stockton from 2010-2020. While implementing these very challenging and diverse programs, Leslie was able to demonstrate her ability to lead the organized chaos of several new start-up ventures. We are incredibly thankful for her steadfast commitment to the children and families in San Joaquin County. We wish Leslie, her husband, and their entire family all the best in this next chapter.”

Ms. Reece shared her thanks offering the following message to Child Care Providers: “We’re all aware that you make a very huge sacrifice by opening your home to families and children that really need your services, and in many ways you’re a surrogate mom and dad providing that love and attention for these children for up to ten, twelve hours a day. That’s something really difficult to do and I have so much admiration for how many years you’ve been able to do that.” Employees at the organization were able to share their well-wishes with Ms. Reece at the main Transworld location, and the community is invited to attend a special retirement reception in her honor on Thursday, November 21st at the Preschool in which she helped to establish: The Joan Richards Learning Village Preschool located at 5211 Barbados Circle. Stockton, CA 95210.

About Family Resource Center: Family Resource Center is committed to the health and well-being of children in San Joaquin County, and the adults who care for them. Serving the community since 1980, FRC’s mission is to provide resources to parents and childcare providers to encourage healthy growth for the children in their care. That’s done through advocacy, information, education, nutritional support, training, and childcare services – directly and by financially supporting community childcare providers – so that every child, and parent, has access to safe and stimulating care outside the home. Family Resource Center is the designated service provider for 211 information and referral services for San Joaquin County. Through this service, increased access to information such as child care, nutritional services and over 4,000 other resources are available to new and current residents, 24/7/365 days a year in over 250 languages.