



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public/private partners to break ground on Regional Family Services Center

May 25, 2011 – Community Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP), Osseo Area Schools, and Hennepin County will break ground on the much anticipated Northwest Regional Family Services Center on July 13, 2011, at 9:30 a.m., at 7051 Brooklyn Boulevard, Brooklyn Center.

The Family Services Center will meet a critical need in the northwest metropolitan area by delivering social services from a single, comprehensive site. The Family Service Center's Brooklyn Center location will provide more convenient access for thousands of families living in northwest Hennepin County.

The idea began taking shape 15 years ago as a partnership between Osseo Area Schools and CEAP. The first phase was completed in 2005 with the opening of the Osseo Area Schools Adult Education Center, a building that was designed to accommodate a subsequent addition to be shared by CEAP & Hennepin County.

Once the three-level, 63,000 square foot addition and parking ramp are built, the center will expand capacity for relief services that meet basic human needs and produce long-term gains by contributing to adult economic self-sufficiency and student achievement. Hennepin County will provide social services including adult behavioral health, child mental health, immigrant/refugee health screenings, immunization, and development disability services. CEAP will offer a food shelf, clothing closet, transportation program and financial assistance for immediate crises. Osseo Area Schools will provide K-12 enrollment assistance and adult education services such as English Language Learner classes, Adult Basic Education and GED classes, college prep, US citizenship classes, and workforce education.

The Regional Family Services Center is slated to open in September 2012.

All northwest Hennepin community members are invited to attend the July 13 groundbreaking. It will be held outside, on the north end of the Adult Education Center at 7051 Brooklyn Boulevard, Brooklyn Center. The ceremony will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. with light refreshments to follow. Translation services will be available, as needed, in Liberian, Hmong, and Spanish.

For more information about CEAP, Osseo Area Schools, or Hennepin County, please visit www.ceap.com, www.district279.org, or www.hennepin.us.

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Thank you for spreading the word about this event.

Sincerely,

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