



OKC Nonprofits Reach Agreement Regarding Historic Property

OKLAHOMA CITY, March 14, 2019 -- Public concerns about the proposed demolition of an Oklahoma City property were resolved this week, according to leaders of two non-profit organizations.

The CARE Center, a child advocacy nonprofit, and the Oklahoma City Federation of Colored Women's Clubs (OCFCWC), an organization dedicated to advancing moral, social, economic and spiritual welfare of families, announced a memorandum of understanding regarding the Brockway Center.

The Brockway Center, a two-story home, is located at 1440 N. Everest Lane near the state Capitol. It was purchased by The CARE Center in 2018 as part of CARE's plans to expand services for abused children in Oklahoma County. The OCFCWC owned the Brockway Center from 1968 to 2011. The CARE Center is the fourth owner of the home since 2011.

The CARE Center initially hoped to renovate the Brockway Center, which is adjacent to its five-building campus in the heart of Oklahoma City, but significant structural deficits in the building have rendered it irreparable.

"Important work happened here," said Stacy McNeiland, CEO of The CARE Center. "We've been talking with OCFCWC leaders to better understand their goals not only about preserving their past but solidifying the important role they play in our community's future."

"The work our members did at the Brockway Center is important," said Sandra Finney, OCFCWC president. "We want to make sure their contributions to our community are remembered, and that the mission of advancing women and families lives on."

Under the terms of the agreement, the OCFCWC will withdraw all objections to the demolition of the Brockway Center. In return, The CARE Center will provide free meeting space for the OCFCWC within the new facility. The OCFCWC will also have a seat on The CARE Center's board of directors.

"These ladies are dedicated to improving the lives of the people in our community and to giving a voice to people who can't speak for themselves," said McNeiland. "That's what The CARE Center is about too. Once we recognized that shared mission, we were able to come to an agreement that allows both organizations to fulfill that goal – each in its own way."

"Because of this property, our history was already connected, and now we have a shared future, too," McNeiland said. "We've learned so much about each other already. Together, we'll be unstoppable."

Construction on the site is scheduled to begin this year.

The CARE Center is Oklahoma County's only child advocacy center providing services including forensic interviews, family advocacy, mental health services, medical exams resource referrals and abuse prevention education. Children involved in active abuse investigations go to The CARE Center to tell their story in an age-appropriate, non-leading interview that is recorded and used throughout the investigation.

More information about The CARE Center is available at www.carecenter-okc.org.

The Oklahoma City Federation for Colored Women's Clubs is a federation of Oklahoma City's African American women's organizations.