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NEW BOYS & GIRLS CLUB WELCOMES THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN IN LEMON HILL COMMUNITY

*Redevelopment Agency supported Teichert Branch with
\$1.4 million in CDBG funds*

Sacramento, California. It was standing room only at the grand opening of the brand new Boys & Girls Club Teichert Branch on Lemon Hill Avenue in South Sacramento. Parents and children were treated to martial arts demonstrations, Toiko Don drummers, Aztec dancers, and demonstrations by the Sheriff's Department canine unit. Elected officials congratulated the Boys & Girls of Clubs of Greater Sacramento and the community for their hard work to make the facility a reality.

Congressman Robert Matsui was instrumental in securing a first time federal funding allocation



of \$200,000 for the Teichert Branch. "Without everyone's tireless efforts and support, the youth of this neighborhood would not have the beautiful new facility."

According to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Sacramento, more than 9,000 children live within a two-mile radius of the Club. The majority of Lemon Hill residents are people of color—Southeast Asian, Latin American, Mexican

American, and African American. The adults are working hard to see that their children have educational and personal opportunities that perhaps they did not. "This Club will give opportunity where little previously existed," said Assemblyman Darrell Steinberg.

"This is one of those incredible examples of community collaboration," said Sacramento Mayor Heather Fargo. The Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (www.shra.org) contributed more than \$1.4 million towards the land acquisition, off-site improvements and construction of the Teichert Branch.



"It's wonderful to open the door to a building that is fully funded and ready to serve the children of Sacramento," said SHRA Executive Director Anne Moore. Other funding support was provided by the Teichert Foundation and California Youth Authority.

"One of the pieces that had been missing from this community has been filled and we are excited about that," said Sacramento City Council Member Dave Jones, whose district includes the Lemon Hill community.



The facility will provide after school and summer education, career development and life leadership skills to all children ages 6 to 18. The Club features a gym, kids café, outdoor playing field, library, technology center, teen room, and a new martial arts room. Fred Teichert spoke about the hope of the Teichert Foundation to “leave a lasting legacy to do something significant,” and “create a bright future through a really positive place for kids.”

SHRA is a Joint Powers Authority representing the City and County of Sacramento for affordable housing and community redevelopment needs. SHRA oversees residential and commercial revitalization activities in 10 redevelopment areas throughout the city and county, and is the region's leading public developer of affordable housing. The Agency provides a variety of programs for first-time homebuyers and offers several loan programs and other assistance to the business community. SHRA has a FY 2004 budget of \$196 million and approximately 328 employees who work in the Agency's Housing Authority, City and County Community Development, Program Operations, Development Services and Administration Departments. SHRA owns 3,600 units of public housing and is one of the largest landlords in Sacramento. SHRA also administers about 11,700 rental assistance vouchers per month.

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