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**LUNGREN VISITS NEW CHILD SERVICES CENTER
ON BRIEF DISTRICT TOUR DURING
NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK**

Facility could lose federal funding support under President's proposed budget

Sacramento, CA. Congressman Dan Lungren, R-District 3, visited a newly opened Children's Services Center today at the Mather Community Campus (MCC) in Sacramento. County Board of Supervisors Roger Dickinson and Don Nottoli joined Rep. Lungren along with parents and their children who use the facility, as well as program coordinators.

The Congressman's visit during National Community Development Week is significant because he is a member of the House Budget Committee that is responsible for setting the budget parameters for each section of the federal budget which includes the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program which is a funding source for the Children's Services Center.

Since 1974, the CDBG program has been one of local government's most important flexible funding sources for leveraging other state and federal dollars providing funding for programs and projects that assist lower income persons that are beyond local government budgets.

"I understand the strength of this program," said Congressman Lungren. "They seem to have the sense to allow communities to come together to make the best decisions. I will say we're making some tough decisions right now and whether it remains in the current form or whether it's part of an expanded program, I don't want us to lose the positives that we have out of the CDBG program."

The President's FY 2006 budget includes a proposal to eliminate the CDBG program by consolidating it along with 17 other federal programs and allocates less funding than CDBG alone receives today. If the President's budget passes, Sacramento County would lose \$7.5 million in CDBG funds that provide essential programs such as the MCC for at-risk low-income residents, as well as critical services for low income neighborhoods.

"What it probably means to us here in the County of Sacramento and all of the incorporated cities is that we will not be able to depend on funding for the CDBG program in the future if that proposal goes forward," said Anne Moore, Executive Director of the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency which administers the CDBG program under authorization from the County.

Community Development Block Grant funds represent a \$33,105,043 investment in Congressman Lungren's district since 1995. In addition serving at-risk families at Mather, the CDBG program has supported water line improvements in Auburn/Arden-Arcade; park improvements and community centers in Rio Linda; senior housing and neighborhood facilities in Folsom; commercial revitalization in Rancho Cordova, and streetscape improvements in Citrus Heights. Countywide, CDBG has supported more than 3,400 projects involving homebuyer assistance, emergency repair assistance, housing rehabilitation and handicap accessibility.

"And that's the payback that for the investment that we are making with this very precious source of federal money," said County Board of Supervisor Chair Roger Dickinson. "We need it. We respect it. We believe we spend it well and we want to be able to continue to build our communities in that way as the future goes on."

The Mather Community Campus is located in the district represented by Supervisor Don Nottoli. The facility works to increase residential stability of participants by providing professional services designed to identify, address, and ameliorate underlying causes of homelessness. The program also identifies and serves the special needs of children 0-17 experiencing homelessness through coordination of program activities/services, curriculum, individual/family intervention and outreach services.

"It's been very critical that the funding from the CDBG program have been available to this community," said Supervisor Nottoli. "We've been able to achieve a good deal with not only the physical improvement but also the personal success stories that come out of a location such as the MCC."

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