



For Immediate Release: December 29, 2015

Media Contact: Colleen McElligott, cmcelligott@sosillinois.org, 312.372.8200 ext. 121

Sky Ranch Foundation Donates Funds to SOS Children's Villages Illinois to support Roosevelt Square Community Center

Chicago, IL – SOS Children's Villages Illinois recently received a \$100,000 grant award from the Sky Ranch Foundation for the development of a new Community Center at its Roosevelt Square Village in the near west loop of Chicago.

The grant will support the: *The Roosevelt Square Village Community Center*

“SOS Children's Villages Illinois is very appreciative of this transformational gift for our new Roosevelt Square Community Center. The Center's foyer and lobby will be named for Sky Ranch Foundation's Vice President and board member Peggy Donovan, in honor of her important work and long term support for children in need. This Center, projected to serve over 5,000 people annually, will offer an inspirational welcome to the children, families, and community members served through our academic, therapeutic, social, and recreational programming.” said Timothy McCormick, CEO SOS Children's Villages Illinois

About Sky Ranch Foundation

Since 2011, Sky Ranch Foundation has awarded \$1,162,070.48 in grants to organizations providing support for at-risk youth. Formed in 1961 and building on more than 50 years of tradition, Sky Ranch Foundation is a tax-exempt charitable organization committed to identifying and offering grants to efficient and effective programs focused on improving the quality of help available to these youth.

About SOS Children's Villages Illinois

SOS Children's Villages builds families for neglected, abandoned and other vulnerable children in 134 countries, including the United States. SOS Children's Villages International (SOS-Kinderdorf International), the parent organization under which SOS Children's Villages Illinois operates, began in Europe in 1945 after World War II; today, it is the largest non-denominational child welfare agency in the world.

In Illinois, SOS Children's Villages provides sibling group foster care, where children receive care and support from a full-time, professionally trained foster parent. SOS Children's Villages Illinois runs four sites including: an 18-home Village in Lockport, Illinois; a 17-home Village in the Auburn Gresham, Englewood neighborhood and a 14-home Village in the Roosevelt Square community of Chicago; and Casa Tepeyac, a short-term residential facility located in the Back of the Yards neighborhood of Chicago.

SOS Children's Villages Illinois, founded 25 years ago, provides a stable home in a supportive, community environment designed to help children in need grow into caring, productive, and self-reliant adults. The SOS Children's Villages model differs from traditional foster care in emphasizing the following four components: 1) Children live together with their siblings, 2) Children receive care and support from a full-time, professionally-trained foster parent, 3) Children grow up in private, single-family, 4) Children are supported by the Village, designed as an intentional community of care.

Interview opportunity

Tim McCormick, CEO of SOS Children's Villages Illinois, is available for interviews and can share the impact this gift will have on the children and youth in Chicago.
