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Family Connections Centers announces new Executive Director, Yensing Sihapanya.

San Francisco, CA – Family Connections Centers is pleased to announce Yensing Sihapanya as its new Executive Director. Yensing has been a cornerstone of the agency for over seven years, starting as the Excelsior Director before becoming Associate Director in 2014.

“We are looking forward to the next chapter in Family Connections’ history with Yensing at the helm,” said Board Co-Chair Carolyn Abate. “She has been an integral part of our successes, and those of the families we serve. The future of Family Connections is bright, and we know that Yensing will ensure the agency continues to provide positive options and brighter futures to the children and families in our communities.”

Family Connections exists to develop strong, healthy families and to build thriving communities. Family Connections provides opportunities for people of different backgrounds to work together cooperatively, sharing cultures, values, knowledge, and resources.

Family Connections serves primarily working families with over 30 interconnected, participant-driven programs in a comprehensive continuum of early childhood education and family support. The agency provides multicultural and multilingual resources and neighborhood support services to more than two thousand children and adults annually.

Family Connections recently completed 25 years of service and opened its new permanent Excelsior center this year. Akin to the building the agency also owns in the Portola neighborhood, the new, state-of-the-art Excelsior facility will allow that center to serve 30% more children and families each year, including the inauguration of a second licensed Pre-K. Additional new programming will continue launching throughout the years ahead.

Yensing has extensive experience in family support, social justice, and community organizing, including directing a residential shelter and programs for homeless families; Program Director of an agency providing educational services to incarcerated youths; and the Associate Director of an organization promoting the rights and well-being of LGBTQ families.

“I am honored to lead Family Connections at this exciting period of growth and evolution,” said Ms. Sihapanya. “The staff, Board, our partners and our families care deeply about the communities we serve and work so hard. They are my inspiration. Our participants rely on this agency for high quality education, family support and community building programming no matter their income level, immigration status, race, etc. We will continue providing equity through our deep engagement and delivery of community-based programming.”

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More information on Family Connections Centers can be found on our website www.fccenters.org.