



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MAYOR ELECT TED WHEELER TO SPEAK AT ALBERTINA KERR'S  
COMMUNITY PROMISE DEDICATION CEREMONY**

PORTLAND, Ore. (May 18, 2016) – Oregon State Treasurer Ted Wheeler, who won the race on Tuesday to become Portland's mayor elect, will speak on the state of children's mental healthcare at Albertina Kerr's Campus for Children's Mental Health on May 20, 2016 as part of their Community Promise Dedication Ceremony. The event starts at 11 a.m. with speakers starting at 11:45 a.m. Ted Wheeler is the Honorary Chair of the Community Promise campaign.

The ceremony will recognize top donors who helped raised more than \$6.1 million to expand and renovate Albertina Kerr's Campus, a ten-acre center that offers community-based mental health services to children and their families throughout the state of Oregon. The completed campus brings together leading practitioners, critical program services and facilities designed to best care for this vulnerable population. Last year, 863 children and families received services at Albertina Kerr's campus. The expansion of this campus will raise the number of children and families served to more than 1,000 each year.

Since 1915, Albertina Kerr's Gresham campus has been a place where Oregon's most vulnerable sought help. A century ago, the urgent social service question was how to aid unwed mothers, their babies and children with developmental disabilities. Kerr's Gresham campus was dedicated to providing care for those who had nowhere else to turn.

Children's mental health is among the most urgent social service challenges Oregon families and communities face. Many families lack the resources to address the most serious mental health issues. "When children do not receive effective diagnosis and treatment, the harm to children, families and communities can be costly in so many ways", said Fritz Bartsch, Community Promise Co-Chair. "Albertina Kerr is being forward thinking and helping children and families now and into the future with being able to provide community-based mental health services to families throughout the state of Oregon. The completed Campus for Children's Mental Health brings together leading practitioners, critical program services and facilities designed to best practice standards that truly are Kerr's hallmark."

The event will be held at 722 NE 162<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Portland, OR 97230 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**About Albertina Kerr**

Since 1907, Albertina Kerr has strengthened Oregon families and communities. Today, we provide programs and services to children and adults with developmental disabilities and mental health challenges, empowering them to live richer lives. Albertina Kerr's capital campaign, Kerr Community Promise, helps raise awareness and funds to support children's mental health.

For more information about Albertina Kerr, call 503.239.8101 or visit [www.albertinakerr.org](http://www.albertinakerr.org)

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