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MEDIA ADVISORY 12/04/2024

Public Libraries to Unveil New Space for Families at Esperanza Acosta Moreno Branch Library

District 4

Joe Molinar

- WHO: El Paso Public Libraries
- WHAT: Unveiling Ceremony of new Family Place section
- WHEN: 10 a.m. Thursday, December 5
- WHERE: Esperanza Acosta Moreno Library, 12480 Pebble Hills

The El Paso Public Libraries will unveil a new Family Place section at the Esperanza Acosta Moreno Branch Library dedicated especially for families.

The Family Place Library section will allow families to come together in a welcoming environment meant to foster development in young children. The Public Libraries received a \$6,700 grant from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission Family Place Libraries Project to create the space.

The Public Libraries used approximately \$6,000 of the grant to purchase toys and furniture for the play area. Some of the items purchased include building blocks, puzzles, toys for infants and toddlers, and a play kitchen among other items.

The children's area will be a specially designed, comfortable space for very young children and their parents and caregivers. Young children can explore, play, share books, learn together and meet other families. Beginning next year, families will be able to sign up for a free 5-week workshop series for toddlers and their parents and caregivers.

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) initiated the <u>Family</u> <u>Place Libraries™ Project</u> in 2015 to help public libraries address early learning with a goal of ensuring that all children enter school ready and able to learn.

Family Place Libraries[™] is a national network providing a welcoming community environment with resources for families to nurture their children's development beginning at birth to help ensure they enter school ready and able to learn. Family Place emphasizes the importance of play in early learning and the importance of parents and caregivers to promote and participate in children's play.

To learn more about the services and programs offered by the El Paso Public Libraries, visit <u>www.ElPasoLibrary.org</u>.

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