



CAROLE ROBERTSON CENTER
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CHICAGO, April 26, 2018 – The Carole Robertson Center for Learning today announced Bela Moté as its new Chief Executive Officer, succeeding Cerathel Burnett who departed October 31, 2017 when named Deputy Commissioner of the City of Chicago’s Department of Family and Support Services’ Children’s Services Division. Ms. Moté will become the Carole Robertson Center’s fourth executive officer in its 42-year history on June 4, 2018.

“Bela brings excellent organizational and management skills and a strong presence for fundraising on top of a foundation of significant expertise and experience in the early childhood and out-of-school time fields,” said Dave Robertson, President of the Carole Robertson Center’s Board of Directors. “We are excited about the positive impact Bela’s leadership will have on the Center’s families, staff, and community.”

An experienced early childhood professional and non-profit leader who has spent her career based in Chicago and committed to quality programs for children and families, Ms. Moté is already familiar with the Carole Robertson Center for Learning and its commitment to high quality, community-based child and family development programs. Ms. Moté’s appointment has been met with much enthusiasm.

Ms. Moté thanked the Carole Robertson Center’s Search Committee and Board of Directors and expressed her commitment to the Center’s mission of educating, enriching, and empowering children and families. I am honored and humbled to be the fourth CEO of the Carole Robertson Center for Learning. The Center’s mission, vision, and unwavering commitment to nurturing and fostering the potential in children, families, and communities have led to 42 years of transformational change in some of Chicago’s greatest communities of opportunity.”

Prior to being named Chief Executive Officer of the Carole Robertson Center for Learning, Ms. Moté served as Vice President, Evidence-Based Youth Development for the YMCA of the USA. Previously, she held leadership positions with YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago,

Ounce of Prevention Fund, Teaching Strategies, Inc., and Robert R. McCormick Tribune Foundation. Ms. Moté is a seasoned non-profit leader with successful program and organizational management, fundraising, and evaluation experience. She began her career working directly with young children as a master teacher in an early childhood classroom and then served as a center director. Ms. Moté holds a Master of Education from Erikson Institute, is a member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and was a Chicago Foundation for Women's Breaking Barriers 2011 honoree.

The search for a new Chief Executive Officer was launched last October following Ms. Burnett's decision to accept a position with the City of Chicago after 24 years of service to the Carole Robertson Center for Learning. The Carole Robertson Center's Executive Committee appointed a Search Committee comprised of board, parent, and staff representation. Input was garnered from key constituents. The Search Committee was led by Mr. Robertson, President of the Board of Directors in conjunction with the mission-driven executive search firm Koya Leadership Partners.

About Carole Robertson Center for Learning

The Carole Robertson Center for Learning is a child and family development organization founded on the west side of Chicago in 1976 by parents and other community members. The

Carole Robertson Center educates, enriches, and empowers children and families. The Center serves nearly 700 children, ages 6 weeks through 15 years daily, and their families through a compliment of center-based, home visiting, and community-based program models. The Center is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and holds ExceleRate Illinois' Gold Circle of Quality.

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