FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Encompass Kicks Off Public Phase of For the Children: A Campaign to Fully Encompass Families

Announcement held to showcase fundraising for $5 million campaign.

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Today, Encompass leaders launched the public phase of their For the Children: A Campaign to Fully Encompass Families. The $5 million initiative will build the endowment for the 100-year-old nonprofit, which has enriched multiple generations of children and their families in Brown County. The results of this campaign will help families afford quality care, enhance support for teachers, and enhance educational experiences.

“Our first 100 years of providing the highest quality of early education and care to local families with young children have been nothing short of spectacular,” says Sue Vincent, Encompass executive director. “We can’t think of a better way to give thanks for the community’s incredible outpouring of support for Encompass for a century as we get started on our next 100 years than to make this announcement on the first day of November, the Month of Thanks.”

The kickoff celebration at the Encompass Bellin Health Center included participation by Encompass students and attendance by Encompass team members, volunteers, families, For the Children campaign supporters and other local dignitaries.

Encompass serves more than 1,300 children, ages six weeks to 12 years old, at seven nationally accredited centers in Green Bay, Allouez, De Pere and Pulaski. Encompass supports families of

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all backgrounds and needs. Certified, compassionate teachers help each child fulfill his or her potential and prepare for a lifetime of success with a research-based curriculum, which focuses on active learning and healthy social development.

The aim of the For the Children campaign is to grow Encompass’ investment fund. By doing so, Encompass would expand affordability for families, enhance support for its teachers, and elevate best-in-classroom experiences.

“Encompass started in 1919 as a small daytime learning center for young children by the Catholic Woman’s Club as local women entered the workforce to support their families after World War I,” says Denis and Irene Hogan, co-chairs of the For the Children campaign. “As we celebrate a transformative centennial for Encompass in our community, we look enthusiastically ahead to a brighter future for generations of Encompass students, families, educators and supporters.”

Mark Murphy, president and CEO of the Green Bay Packers, shares, “Encompass has provided crucial services in the community for over a century, and the Packers are pleased to join them in embarking successfully on the next 100 years. We are proud to have supported the start of this important campaign with our Green Bay Packers Foundation’s $250,000 matching grant to enhance their playgrounds and technology.”

“We well know that the quality of a child’s first five years determines the course of their future health and well-being,” says Chris Woleske, president and CEO of Bellin Health. “That’s why we have for many decades been there in support of Encompass, and look forward to being a part of their next 100 years to ensure that quality child care creates healthy children and families in our region.”

“We do this for one reason. It’s for the children, as Carol Bush reminds us,” Irene Hogan says. “Carol has been a part of this organization for over 65 years. She and her husband Bob have given countless hours to advance Encompass. They started the Big Event for Little Kids, which has raised $3 million since it started in 1988. And Bob and Carol Bush are the honorary co-chairs of this campaign.”

Bob Bush, 93, who passed away in October, left an indelible mark on the Greater Green Bay community—as a devout family man, a visionary businessman and a famously supportive volunteer who cared deeply about Encompass—largely because of Carol’s passion.

The Bushes have supported the mission and vision of Encompass for more than 65 years. Carol, who will celebrate her 93rd birthday Nov. 2, is fond of saying “It’s for the children” when her attention often turns to Encompass.
“We lost a giant of a man with the passing of Bob Bush last month,” says Ron Dunford, president and CEO of Schreiber Foods. “Bob not only was a founding owner of Schreiber and an innovative leader for the company, but he and his wife Carol were instrumental in the creation and growth of numerous community organizations like Encompass. In the spirit of Bob’s avid ‘yes’ to a local cause, our community can carry the torch by saying ‘yes’ to For the Children: A Campaign to Fully Encompass Families.”

Joining Schreiber Foods as major investors in the campaign are the Green Bay Packers Foundation, Shopko Foundation, Scott and Nancy Armbrust, Bay Tek Entertainment/MCL Industries, Bellin Health, Cornerstone Foundation of NEW Inc., Elizabeth B. and Philip J. Hendrickson Foundation, Jack and Inky Meng, Associated Bank, Doctors in Recital, Mike and Leanne Haddad, Patricia Schneider, Schneider Foundation, K.C. Stock Foundation, Wochinske Family Foundation, Amerhart LTD, Tom and Tracy Arndt, Carrie and Bob Arnold, Frederick and Virginia Baer, Bob and Carol Bush, Diane Conway, Bernie and Alyce Dahlin, Hedge Family Foundation, Irene and Denis Hogan Family Fund, Laura Mossakowski LLC, RGL Holdings Inc., and Weyers Family Foundation. Many others also have stepped up.

“We are forever grateful for this support during our quiet phase of the campaign,” says Tracy Arndt, Encompass’ fund development and community relations director. “Thanks to the heartwarming generosity of 100 contributors so far, which is quite fitting in the midst of our 100-year celebration, we are halfway to our goal. Now, we enthusiastically share our story and our campaign objectives so that we can do more for the children.”

ABOUT ENCOMPASS
Since 1919, Encompass has been the leader in caring for the children of Brown County, Wisconsin. Encompass serves more than 1,300 children from six weeks to 12 years old at seven centers in Green Bay and neighboring communities. Led by a highly educated and well-trained team of teachers, Encompass employs a research-based curriculum that fosters birth-to-5 development. All Encompass centers have attained the highest standards in early care and education, including accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and a 5-star YoungStar rating by the state of Wisconsin. All Encompass centers offer 4-year-old kindergarten (4K) programs in partnership with the Green Bay, Pulaski and West De Pere school districts. And Encompass supports working families in need of high-quality child care with a tuition-assistance program. To learn more, visit encompasswi.org.

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