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For Immediate Release

A Fence for Safer Play, A Future for Growing Minds

(Sarasota – August 4, 2025) – Last year's hurricanes re-prioritized Forty Carrots Family Center's need to replace the Preschool's playground fencing. A recent grant of \$30,000 from the William G. and Marie Selby Foundation allowed Forty Carrots to replace the fence and ensure long-term safety and endless educational opportunities for its Preschool students.

"Beyond the physical space, the Preschool playground creates a seamless learning environment that naturally connects science and nature and maximizes the benefits of outdoor learning during the most critical years of a child's development. "We are so grateful to the William G. and Marie Selby Foundation for recognizing that the most basic investments are often challenging to obtain funding for," said Michelle Kapreilian, Forty Carrots CEO.

"The results-based work of Forty Carrots Family Center helps our youngest learners access all the tools they need to succeed as they grow and develop. The Selby Foundation has appreciated the opportunity to invest in their success over time, including the latest grant to ensure continued safe and fun outdoor experiences for preschoolers," said Susie Bowie, The William G. and Marie Selby Foundation President/CEO.

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About Forty Carrots Family Center

Since 1993, **Forty Carrots Family Center** has served families in Sarasota & Manatee counties, ensuring good beginnings that last a lifetime for children through its expertise in Parenting Education, Mental Health Services, and Early Childhood Education. Rated 4-Stars by Charity Navigator, Forty Carrots serves families from all walks of life, with 96 percent of families receiving services free of charge. Visit www.fortycarrots.org for more information.

About William G. and Marie Selby Foundation

Now in its 70th year, the William G. and Marie Selby Foundation invests in nonprofits and students through capital grants and scholarships. The legacy of Bill and Marie Selby, the Foundation is committed to increasing opportunities for people who live in Sarasota, Manatee, Charlotte and DeSoto counties. Learn more online at <u>SelbyFdn.org</u>.