

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

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## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Tulare County Office of Education Announces: Collaborative Leadership Institute Selects Third Group of Emerging Leaders in Children's Services**

The Collaborative Leadership Institute – a project of the Tulare County Office of Education funded by First Five of Tulare County – announces the selection of its third cohort of emerging children's services leaders. Founded in 2000, the Institute's mission is to ensure the continuing vitality of the community of children service providers in Tulare County by identifying and developing emerging leaders, and motivating them to work together. The Institute's primary goals are to improve coordination and collaboration, provide succession planning, and to advance programs that impact young children in Tulare County. The Collaborative Leadership Institute is directed by Barry Sommer, Educational Psychologist, MFT, who also directs School/Community Development for Lindsay USD, and the Student Assistance Program at Porterville College.

“With this class of participants, we will have trained over 40 young leaders in the field of children's services,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “Twenty to

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Page 2

thirty years from now Tulare County children will still be benefiting from the visionary, comprehensive and coordinated healthcare, education and social services administered by CLI graduates.”

The third CLI cohort is made up of 15 participants representing 12 youth serving agencies.

Frank Ardon  
Synchrony of Visalia, Inc.,

Atto Arguelles  
Lindsay Unified School District

Kathy Arieas  
Central Valley Regional Center

Norma Erwin  
Lindsay Unified School District

Selina Flores  
Family Services

Margaret Hall  
Tulare County Office of Education –  
Child Care

Maria Hernandez  
Pixley Union School District

Rosa Marie Iniguez  
Burton Elementary School District

Barbara Johnson  
Christkids Preschool, Christ  
Lutheran Church

Magdalena Marquez-Milward  
Tulare County Office of Education –  
Child Care

Jackie Rojas LPT.  
Sequoia Youth/Turning Point

Jorge Romero  
Tulare Youth Service Bureau

Cheryl Lynn Rupp  
CASA of Tulare County

Carla Sawyer  
Tulare County Health & Human  
Services

Tammy Wiggins  
Tulare County Health & Human  
Services

For more information about CLI, contact Barry Sommer at (559) 738-0644.

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