

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

October 23, 2001

For Immediate Release

Contact: Robert Herman
Public Information Officer
559/733-6606

Tulare County Office of Education Announces: Collaborative Leadership Institute Hold Reception October 25, 2001

The Collaborative Leadership Institute (CLI) is a project of the Tulare County Office of Education funded by the Tulare County Children and Families Commission – Proposition 10. The purpose of CLI is to ensure the continuing vitality of child services providers in Tulare County by identifying and developing emerging leaders, and motivating them to work together.

On Thursday, October 25, CLI will hold a public reception to announce the first class of candidates identified as emerging leaders in children's services in Tulare County. The reception will be held in the Tulare County Office of Education from 5:30 until 7:00 pm in the Education Center located at 2637 West Burrel in Visalia. The Collaborative Leadership Institute is under the direction of Barry Sommer.

“As we examined the future of children’s services in Tulare County, it became clear to us that a high percent agency directors are reaching retirement age,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak.

- more -

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

Page 2

“Many of these individuals have been dedicated to their work for decades, with no clear plan for secession. I’m delighted with the vision of the Collaborative Leadership Institute to identify and mentor future leaders in the area of children’s healthcare, education and social services.”

The Collaborative Leadership Institute will introduce the following individuals at its reception October 25.

Ralph Alvarez	Rebecca Jennings
Cheryl Lennon-Armas	Shawnie Jiminez
Melissa Bachtelle	Sharon Kamberg
Nanci Carter	Rachel Margolis
Esperanza De León	Trina Rodriguez
Linda Del Rio	Martha Serrato
Leticia Epps	Geraldine Smith
Andrew Flores	Cheri Taylor
Anthony Foster	Scott Underwood
Pam Gruber	Blair Vedenoff
Debi Hill	Elizabeth Wilshire

For more information on the Collaborative Leadership Institute, contact Barry Sommer at 757-3131, extension 106.

###

Rel: 37/01