

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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October 29 Read to Succeed Conference Addresses Early Literacy

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Library is again partnering with the Yolo County Office of Education, the Woodland Public Library, United Way and others to bring attention and action to the issue of low literacy and the related achievement gap with a Read to Succeed Conference on October 29, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Woodland Community & Senior Center, located at 2001 East Street in Woodland. The conference is a follow up to the April 29 symposium which focused on early literacy.

"The April 29 Symposium got people to the table and talking," said Yolo County Librarian Patty Wong. "The Read to Succeed Conference will provide businesses, practitioners and the community methods in which they can address early literacy in their arenas."

The conference will provide a variety of model approaches to address early literacy issues identified in the April 29 symposium by showcasing the following local and regional programs:

- Early Intervention/Literacy: West Sacramento Universal Preschool
- Family and Community Engagement: Talk, Read, Sing
- Summer Learning: The Yolo County Library and Woodland Public Library
- Nutrition: Full Belly Farms and Kids Farmers' Market

The first keynote speaker will be Lenny Mendonca, director emeritus from the Washington D.C. and San Francisco offices of McKinsey & Company, a global management consulting firm, and senior fellow at the Presidio Institute. Mr. Mendonca is chair of Children Now, co-chair of California Forward and founder and chair of FUSE Corps.

The second keynote speaker will be Margaret Brodkin, founder and director of Funding the Next Generation, a collaborative initiative sponsored by the First 5 Association of California and with seven other statewide children's organizations that promotes local dedicated funding streams for children, youth and families throughout California.

"Literacy for our children should be a priority," said Yolo County Superintendent of Schools Jesse Ortiz. "The tools we give our children today will impact the quality of life for everyone tomorrow."

All are welcome to join in this effort to give children the tools they need to succeed in life and school. Register for the Read to Succeed Conference by October 23 at: www.ycoe.org/read2succeed-conference or call (530) 668-6700 for more information.