

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

Office of the County Administrator

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Grand Opening/Naming Ceremony of the Helen MacLeod Thomson Health and Human Services Davis Center/District Offices

(Woodland, CA) – On December 13 at 9:00 a.m., former California State Assemblywoman and Yolo County Supervisor Helen MacLeod Thomson will be recognized for her many contributions to Yolo County with the naming of the Health and Human Services Davis Center/District Offices in her honor. The Grand Opening/Naming Ceremony will be held at the facility, located at 600 A Street in Davis.

Yolo County has made it a practice to name buildings in honor of difference-makers who have contributed significantly to enhancing the quality of life in Yolo County. Per county policy, nominations were solicited from staff and the community, and a naming committee convened to make a selection.

"The name 'Helen Thomson' is synonymous with social and mental health services," said Yolo County Supervisor Jim Provenza. "It is very fitting that the county's health and human services facility in Davis be named after former Supervisor Thomson."

"For the first time, Yolo County will offer access to a wide range of health and human service programs in Davis," said Yolo County Supervisor Don Saylor. "It is fitting that we should recognize Helen Thomson by naming this service center in her honor. Helen's legendary public service career starts with her core as a registered nurse. Her life has been dedicated to education, mental health, public health and human service. I am proud that the Yolo County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to recognize this building as the Helen MacLeod Thomson Health and Human Services Davis Center."

Ms. Thomson's civil service accomplishments span 40 years, beginning with her tenure on the Davis School Board starting in 1978. From there, she went on to serve as a Yolo County Supervisor, representing the Second District, which includes the City of Davis, from 1987 to 1996 and again in 2003 until her retirement in 2010. In between, Ms. Thomson served as a member of the California State Assembly from 1997 to 2002, working tirelessly to better mental and public health services for all.

Ms. Thomson has served in many other capacities throughout the region including with the Yolo County Mental Health Association, Yolo Hospice, UC Davis School of Medicine Advisory Committee for the Women's Health Initiative, National Advisory Council for the UC Davis Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing, University Retirement Community Foundation and Yolo County Housing Commission.

The newly renovated Health and Human Services Davis Center/District Offices will offer several mental and public health services to the residents of Davis and neighboring communities, as well as office space for the Second and Fourth District County Supervisors and Assemblywoman Cecilia Aguiar-Curry.