

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

Sharon Jensen County Administrator

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Promote Literacy in Your Community

(Woodland, CA) – One in five Yolo County residents cannot read and write sufficiently to carry out day-to-day activities at work and home. Do you know someone – a co-worker, a friend, a family member – who has difficulty reading and writing? Chances are you know at least one person. Please share with them information about Yolo Reads!, an adult literacy program through the Yolo County Library system, and consider becoming a volunteer tutor.

Yolo Reads! supports literacy by providing free and confidential instruction to English-speaking adult learners. Learners receive one-on-one support from volunteer tutors, free materials to cover a six month period, free computer use, and access to Yolo County Library collections. Tutoring is available at each of the seven county libraries located in the communities of Davis, West Sacramento, Clarksburg, Winters, Esparto, Knights Landing and Yolo (visit <u>www.yolocountylibrary.org</u> for branch locations).

For those interested in becoming a volunteer tutor, the Yolo County Library is sponsoring a tutor orientation followed by a tutor training workshop. The orientation will be held on November 5, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Department of Employment and Social Services in West Sacramento located at 500 Jefferson Boulevard. Volunteers are required to attend the orientation prior to the four-hour tutor training workshop on November 8 in Davis (additional details will be provided at the orientation).

"We encourage Yolo County residents to share the rewards of reading by volunteering to help adult learners improve their reading skills," said Patty Wong, Yolo County Librarian. "You truly can make a real difference. No experience is necessary, the hours are flexible, and we provide all the training and materials. Yolo Reads! is always looking for volunteer tutors."

Yolo Reads! is also looking for tutors interested in working one-on-one with a probationer or parolee. As part of this program Yolo Reads! has strengthened its outreach with probation and parole. Yolo Reads! is now receiving direct referrals from the Yolo County Probation Department and the program is promoted at Parolee and Corrections Team orientations for newly paroled individuals in Yolo County.

If you would like to know more about the Yolo Reads! program or would like to attend the tutor orientation on November 5, please call Yolo Reads! at (866) 609-7303 (toll free) or e-mail <u>heather.bratt@yolocounty.org</u>. If you are interested in volunteering, but are unable to attend the orientation, let us know. For more information on the Yolo County Library system visit: www.yolocountylibrary.org.