

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Heart Gallery at Gallery 625 in November

(Woodland, CA) – In November, the California Department of Social Services, in partnership with Yolo County Department of Employment and Social Services' Child Welfare Services Division, Woodland Community College Foster and Kinship Care Education, Lilliput Children's Services and Sierra Adoption Services, is participating in the Yolo County Arts Council's "Images of Hope" exhibition with a Heart Gallery display. Heart Gallery displays nationwide raise awareness about National Adoption Awareness Month, held in November, and the need for adoptive homes for foster children.

The "Images of Hope" exhibition and the Heart Gallery display can be viewed at Yolo County's Gallery 625, located at the County Administration Building at 625 Court Street in Woodland throughout the month of November. The Heart Gallery will showcase professional photographs featuring eight children and youth awaiting their "forever family." Heart Gallery displays across the nation have had unprecedented success in finding adoptive homes for foster youth.

"The Heart Gallery display highlights the faces and stories of foster children in need of adoptive homes, and gives a face and a voice to children in our communities who deserve safe, loving homes," said Pam Miller, Yolo County Department of Employment and Social Services Director.

A reception for the "Images of Hope" exhibition be held on November 7 in Gallery 625 in the County Administration Building from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and will include light refreshments. Starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Atrium of the County Administration Building, Heart Gallery display speakers, which include Yolo County Supervisor Helen Thomson, Department of Employment and Social Services Director Pam Miller and one of the youth awaiting adoption, will share their thoughts and experiences. Representatives from organizations working in the field of adoptions and foster care will be on hand to answer questions.

Everyone is invited to attend this special event to show their support for foster children in our communities. If you have questions about adoption, please call the California Department of Social Services at (916) 574-1333.