

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 22, 2024 Contact: Dwight Coddington Email: <u>PIO@YoloCounty.org</u> Phone: (530) 908-0186

Yolo County Hosts 2nd Annual Farmworker Resource Fair

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA), YoloWorks!, and the Yolo County Workforce Innovation Board are pleased to announce the 2nd Annual Yolo County Farmworker Resource Fair. This event will be held on Friday, September 6, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Woodland Community College, located at 2300 E Gibson Road in Woodland. This year's fair will feature over 30 regional organizations committed to supporting local farmworkers and their families.

"Farmworkers are the backbone of our agricultural sector, and it is our responsibility to ensure they have access to the resources and support they need," said Lucas Frerichs, Chair of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors. "This fair unites a range of services designed to support these essential workers and their families, underscoring our commitment to their well-being and our community's dedication to supporting those who play an indispensable role in our local and global food systems."

Yolo County is home to more than 6,000 farmworkers who play a crucial role in both our local economy and the global food supply. The annual resource fair is intended to connect these essential workers with a variety of services and support. Attendees will have access to resources including food assistance, counseling, health and medical care, legal support, safety and housing, child and family services, youth development, labor rights, employment opportunities, vocational training, and public benefits.

The Yolo Food Bank will contribute food box donations, and Yolobus has generously provided bus passes to support the transportation of attendees.

Farmworkers often face significant challenges during the off-season, which spans from October to March. Many experience unemployment and financial hardship during this period. While some seek unemployment benefits, not all are eligible, leading to further financial strain. This resource fair is designed to offer support and connect farmworkers with year-round resources and assistance.

"Supporting our farmworkers is not just a matter of appreciation but of responsibility, " said Yolo County District 5 Supervisor Angel Barajas. "This resource fair is a crucial step in ensuring that those who contribute so much to our community receive the resources and support they need."

The event will offer an evening of vibrant celebration and community engagement, featuring delicious cuisine from Las Brasas and live music performances by Los Tres de Winters.

Farmworkers are encouraged to register in advance at <u>www.YoloCounty.gov/TrabajadoresAgricolas</u> or at <u>tinyurl.com/YoloFWRF</u>.

For more information, please contact Rodrigo Lopez, Agricultural Labor Coordinator with the Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency, at (530) 702-1790 or via email at <u>Rodrigo.Lopez@YoloCounty.gov</u>.

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