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COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 13, 2024 Contact: Laura Galindo Email: <u>PIO@YoloCounty.gov</u> Phone: (530) 341-9865

Yolo County OES Launches 'Yolo Ready' to Boost Neighborhood Resiliency and Preparedness

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Office of Emergency Services (OES) is proud to announce the launch of Yolo Ready, a new program focused on building neighborhood readiness and strengthening community resilience across Yolo County. Developed in partnership with Rancho Yolo Davis, this initiative provides community members with resources and tools to work together effectively in the crucial early moments of a disaster.

To commence Yolo Ready, Yolo County OES hosted a Health and Safety Fair on October 17, at Rancho Yolo, bringing together over 20 local organizations to provide essential resources, services, and information intended to enhance community preparedness and resilience.

Yolo Ready empowers neighbors to support one another during the first critical hour of a disaster, which can significantly reduce injuries, protect property, and, most importantly, save lives. Through this program, participants work together to create an emergency response plan tailored to their neighborhood based on their needs. Plans include identifying available skills and resources, establishing immediate actions for post-disaster scenarios, and organizing response teams. While each neighborhood plan is unique, the program's core principles of readiness and cooperation are central to every initiative.

"Yolo Ready is about building stronger, safer neighborhoods by empowering residents to take care of each other when it matters most," said Kristin Weivoda, Chief of Emergency Services for Yolo County. "In those first critical moments of a disaster, quick, coordinated actions can save lives. This program gives our communities the tools and knowledge they need to be ready."

Yolo County OES offers a 90-minute workshop, available virtually or in person, to guide residents through the process of developing a neighborhood emergency plan. During these workshops, participants receive comprehensive materials, step-by-step instructions, and expert guidance.

To learn more about Yolo Ready or to schedule a workshop for your neighborhood, visit <u>www.YoloCounty.gov/OES</u> and select the "Yolo Ready" tab or email at <u>OES@YoloCounty.gov</u>.

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