



# EEO MATTERS

## Twelfth Annual Diversity Luncheon

SJC-EEO

October 2009

The County celebrated its Twelfth Annual Diversity Luncheon with the theme "Answering the Call" on October 1<sup>st</sup> at the China Palace Restaurant. This year's festivities was attended by over 270 County employees, including members of the Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator.

Robin Moore, EEO Program Manager, gave the welcome and opening remarks, followed by remarks from Board of Supervisors Vice-Chairman Carlos Villapudua, and County Administrator Manuel Lopez. Department EEO Coordinator Kevin Swanson (Community Development Department) and Sunny Acevedo (County Administrator's Office) were the Master and Mistress of Ceremonies.

During the luncheon, attendees had an opportunity to "get their groove on" by listening to the sounds of fellow County employee, Norma Franco, Purchasing and Support Services, along with "Random," who provided the musical entertainment.

The annual EEO and Diversity Award was also presented during the luncheon. This year's recipient was the Behavioral Health Services

Mental Health Services Act Consortium, for the unit's commitment to diversity.

The featured keynote speaker was Robert Quintana Hopkins who gave a thought provoking and profoundly insightful message on diversity as he read poems and essays from his book entitled "Glass Closet." After Mr. Quintana Hopkins' speech, EEO Advisory Committee Chairperson, Christiane Roceli, presented Mr. Quintana Hopkins with a plaque of appreciation.

Throughout the festivities, a total of thirty-five gift baskets and door prizes were given away to lucky participants.

It was another very successful Diversity Luncheon made possible by the superb planning, coordination, and hard work of the Diversity Luncheon Committee, the EEO Advisory Committee, the EEO Office, and with the support of various departments and individuals, including the gift donors and EEO Department Coordinators.

We are looking forward to seeing you at next year's luncheon!

### CONTACT US

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<http://www.sjgov.org/eoo>



...Check out the EEO Website for Diversity Luncheon pictures

### Congratulations!

#### 2009 Mentor Partnership Program Participants

The 2009 Mentor Partnership Program concluded September 29<sup>th</sup> with a year-end assessment, celebration and presentation of certificates in the Board of Supervisors' Chambers. The forty-six participants showed dedication and commitment as they worked hard in achieving their goals.

On behalf of the EEO Program, we would like to congratulate the following mentors and mentees for their participation and successful completion of the 2009 Mentor Partnership Program.

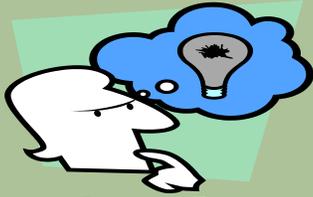
**Mentors:** Chrissie Babb, Jerry Becker, Mary Calderon, Sharel Campbell, Jeff Carruesco, Cindy Clays, Jaime Clayton, Susan DeMontigny, Mary Doak, Jon Drake, Adrienne Graham Laney, Ron Green, Robin Griffen, John Huber, Regina Martin, Adolfo Munoz, Craig Ogata, Lolita Pearson, Lois Sahyoun, Ramona Sajor, Lani Schiff-Ross, LaTosha Walden

**Mentees:** Candida Antonio, Silvia Bailey, Michael Ball, Debra Benson, Kevin Blanchard, Uriel Chavez, Samantha Dobretz, Dawn Hensley, Charlotte Hunter-Brown, Rebecca Iaccino, Melonie Jacques, Jamie Jones, Pamela McMillan, Thienan Nguyentan, Roman Plateau, Ferdinand Pura, Russell Relf, Katie Roe, Norma Runtal, Bobby Smith, Joanne Smith-Ripp, Jarrett Spurgeon, Cinna Thompson, Kimberly Warmsley

Again, congratulations and best wishes for success!

*"Don't spend your precious time asking 'Why isn't the world a better place?' It will only be time wasted. The question to ask is 'How can I make it better?' To that there is an answer."*

**- Leo F. Buscaglia**



### Did you know?

One in eight women will experience depression within their lifetime. This is twice the rate of men, regardless of race or ethnicity.

According to a CNN Gallup poll, 79 percent of Americans believe that gays and lesbians should be allowed to serve openly in the military.

Asian Americans now comprise almost 5 percent of the U.S. population and are the second-fastest growing minority group in the United States (after Latinos).

Nearly 22 percent of adults with severe disabilities have college degrees. Approximately 33 percent with mild disabilities had degrees and 43 percent of adults with no disabilities had degrees, according to a survey by the Census Bureau.

(Source - www.diversityinc.com)



A little girl was in church for the first time when she saw the collection plates being passed around. As one of them was handed down her pew, she said loudly, "Don't pay for me, daddy. I'm under five!"

## EEO OFFICE TIDBITS



### Your Opportunity To Participate In the 2010 Mentor Partnership Program Is Here!

Are you interested in a program that offers opportunities to develop skills and knowledge and will provide encouragement, guidance and training necessary for you to confidently pursue career-oriented goals within San Joaquin County government? If so, your opportunity to participate in the **Mentor Partnership Program** is here!

The Mentor Partnership Program, sponsored by the County EEO Program, is currently accepting applications for the January 2010 program.

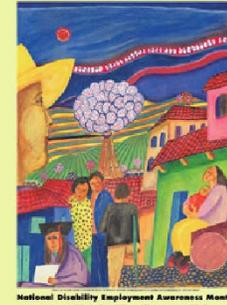
The Mentor Partnership Program is designed to provide employees an equal opportunity to receive one-on-one guidance and support in attaining career goals and professional growth.

Space is limited so don't miss this opportunity to pursue your career-oriented goals with greater focus and confidence or the opportunity to inspire someone else to reach their goals.

- ✓ Interested?
- ✓ Curious?
- ✓ Have questions?

Contact the EEO Office at 468-3374, or visit the EEO Office Website, for a listing of informational session dates, times, and locations. Representatives will be present at each informational session to answer questions and provide you with more details about the program.

## Celebrate Diversity



### October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month!

This annual observance, designed to recognize the contributions of workers with disabilities, began in 1988 with the Presidential Proclamation of Public Law 100-630 (Title III, Sec. 301a). This law replaced "National Employ The Handicapped Week," which had been celebrated annually since 1945 during the first week in October.

Each annual awareness month celebration provides a time for reflection on the progress the nation has made in tapping into a talented, skilled, and diverse pool of workers.

For people with disabilities, the journey to full participation in society has been long and difficult. We still have miles to go before we reach that goal. The observance of October as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month" is just one step along the road, but an important one.

Please join the nation, during the month of **October**, in celebrating **National Disability Employment Awareness Month!**

### Quarterly Diversity Calendar

**October 2009**  
Disability Employment Awareness Month  
October 12 - Columbus Day

**November 2009**  
Native American Indian Heritage Month  
November 3 - Election Day  
November 11 - Veterans Day  
November 26 - Thanksgiving Day

**December 2009**  
December 11 - 19 - Hanukkah  
December 25 - Christmas Day  
December 26 - January 1 - Kwanzaa

*The Quarterly Diversity Calendar is intended as a brief sampling of many commonly known cultural and religious holidays and observances celebrated in the U.S. The calendar is by no means exhaustive. It is not the intention of the EEO Office to offend any individual or group.*