

# EEO MATTERS

# San Joaquin County Celebrates Diversity At The Annual Diversity Luncheon

SJC-EEO

October 2010

This year's San Joaquin County Diversity Luncheon was held on September 30<sup>th</sup> at the Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center. The festivities were attended by a record number of over 340 County employees and community-based organization representatives, 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 Chairman Carlos Villapudua, and County Administrator Manuel Lopez. Patricia Colvin (Behavioral Health Services), and EEO Advisory Committee member Norma Franco (Purchasing & Support Services), were the Mistresses of Ceremony.

During the luncheon, attendees had an opportunity to "get their groove on" by listening to the soulful and rhythmic sounds of "Bee Tee Xpress," featuring fellow County employee, Sean Lopez, Facilities Management, who provided the musical entertainment.

The annual EEO and Diversity Award was also presented during the luncheon. This year's recipient was the Solid Waste Division of the Public Works Department, for the unit's commitment and contributions in support of diversity.

Special thanks to the generosity and creativity of various County departments and individuals who donated a combined total of thirty-three gift baskets and door prizes that were given away to lucky participants.

Finally, we want to recognize this year's superb featured keynote speaker, Dr. Bennet Omalu, the County's Chief Medical Examiner. His message, "Empowerment Through Education," was inspirational, thought provoking and profoundly insightful. Dr. Omalu told his personal story, emphasizing that "Empowerment Through Education" provides the tools to overcome the obstacles and challenges of life. He continues a legacy inspired by his father and motivates us to challenge and improve ourselves by pursuing and attaining the highest echelons of diversity through education.

It was another very successful Diversity Luncheon made possible by the excellent planning, coordination, and hard work of the Diversity Luncheon Committee, the EEO Advisory Committee, and the EEO Office.

I hope that you all had a wonderful time and look forward to seeing you at next year's 2011 Diversity Luncheon.

### **CONTACT US**

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http://www.sjgov.org/eeo

# Congratulations! 2010 Mentor Partnership Program Participants

The 2010 Mentor Partnership Program concluded September 21<sup>st</sup> with a year-end assessment, celebration and presentation of certificates in the Board of Supervisors' Chambers. The 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 2010 Mentor Partnership Program.

Mentors: Jerry Becker, Judy Beitz, Mary Calderon, Annette DePauli, Jon Drake, Dennis Duffy, Joy Flowers, Lori Freitas, Jim Garrison, John Huber, Bill Mitchell, Carrie Norris, Lolita Pearson, Deborah Rowe, Lois Sahyoun, Marc Shorr, Vic Singh, Adrian Van Houten.

Mentees: Je'taine Austin, Cynthia Buenviaje, Roger Conn, Andrew Feingold, Lynn Finch, Vicenta Gallegos, Deborah Maffei, Eileen Michael, Lynde Munoz, Janet Posada, Carmelita Ramos, Sandy Roderick, Todd Sakai, Lawrence Shaddix, Deanna Sumner, Romar Valdez, Suzanne Welch, Sandy Ziemann.

Again, congratulations and best wishes for success!

"There are two types of people who will tell you that you cannot make a difference in this world: Those who are afraid to try and those who are afraid you will succeed."

- Ray Goforth

Page 2



# Did you know?

Since the Iraq/Afghanistan wars, 9,100 veterans have been diagnosed with traumatic brain injuries.

Approximately 2.4 percent of Fortune 500 CEOs are women, up from 0.6 percent in 2000.

In August 2009, the unemployment rate of people with disabilities was 16.9 percent, compared with 9.3 percent for people with no ADA-defined disability.

Between 2005 and 2016, college enrollment for U.S. Latinos is expected to increase by 45 percent, compared with 17 percent for the general population.

(Source - www.diversityinc.com)



A dad took his son to his first football game. Afterward he asked him how he liked the game.

"I liked it, but I couldn't understand why they were killing each other for 25 cents," he said.

"What do you mean?" he asked. "Well, everyone kept yelling, 'Get the quarter back!"

# 2011 Mentor Partnership Program



The Mentor Partnership Program, sponsored by the County EEO Program, is currently accepting applications for the January 2011 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.

Contact the EEO Office at 468-3374, or visit the EEO Office Website at www.sjgov.org/eeo for more information or to download an application.

# Board Adopts New County 2010-2012 EEO Plan!

The San Joaquin County 2010-2012 Equal Employment Opportunity Plan was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on September 28, 2010.

To review a copy of the EEO Plan, visit the Human Resources Office or contact your Department EEO Coordinator. The EEO Plan is also available for viewing and downloading directly from the EEO Office Website.

# Celebrate Diversity



## Kwanzaa

## December 26 - January 1

December 26 starts the annual celebration of Kwanzaa, an occasion created out of a need for all African Americans, regardless of their religious beliefs, to come together and celebrate family, tradition and community.

Within the Kwanzaa history are Seven Principles which are part of the seven-day celebration. Kwanzaa is a time of reflection that is celebrated by African Americans worldwide. It is a time in which ancient traditions are revisited and the rich history of the African culture is renewed through the reassertion of family values and community.

Similar to New Years, Kwanzaa represents the passing of one year and the welcoming of a new year to come. It is a time of reflection in which African roots are observed.

To commemorate this special holiday, a Kwanzaa setting is placed in a central part of one's home in which seven symbols are utilized to represent the values of the African culture and serve as a reminder of one's commitment to family and community.

# Quarterly Diversity Calendar

#### October 2010

Disability Employment Awareness Month National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

### November 2010

Native American Indian Heritage Month November 2 - Election Day November 11 - Veterans Day November 25 - Thanksgiving Day

#### December 2010

**December 1 - 9** 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.