

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Remembering 9/11, Preparing for Tomorrow

San Joaquin County proclaims September as National Preparedness Month and brings community together at the Ready Together Community Block Party

STOCKTON, CA - Today, the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors proclaimed September as National Preparedness Month, recognizing the importance of preparing for emergencies and the work being done across the county to help communities be ready.

“Reducing risk, protecting lives, and strengthening communities through partnerships and preparedness is at the heart of what we do at the San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services,” said Tiffany Cacho, Director of Emergency Operations. “Preparedness starts with each of us taking small steps to protect our families, our businesses, and our communities.”

This year’s National Preparedness Month also comes as the nation approaches the 25th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks. The anniversary is a time to remember the lives lost, honor the first responders who answered the call, and reflect on how communities come together during some of their most difficult moments. It is also a reminder that being prepared before an emergency happens can make a difference when it matters most.

“The best way for us to honor the sacrifice of those who lost their lives on September 11th is to ensure our community is prepared,” said Chair and District Three Supervisor Sonny Dhaliwal. “25 years have passed since the terror attacks, but we remain committed to keeping our community safe and being prepared for emergencies.”

“I’ll never forget that day and the first responders who selflessly answered the calls for help on 9/11,” said District One Supervisor Mario Gardea. “Honoring these brave men and women is more than paying tribute. It’s a reminder that we must do whatever is needed to protect our residents.”

To help bring that message directly to the community, the San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services has partnered with Assemblymember Rhodesia Ransom, El Concilio California, Catholic Charities, Little Manila Rising, and Lily of the Valley Church to host the inaugural *Ready Together Community Block Party*. The event will begin with a 9/11 Memorial Ceremony, followed by the community resource fair and bring together local organizations, first

responders, community groups, and community members for a day focused on preparedness, connection, and access to resources.

- **What:** Ready Together Community Block Party
- **When:** Saturday, September 12, 2026
- **Event Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
 - **9/11 Memorial Ceremony:** 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
 - **Live Safety Demonstrations:** 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
- **Where:** El Concilio California, Stockton II Opportunity Center, 224 S. Sutter Street, Stockton, CA 95203
- **Who:** San Joaquin County community members

“Our work in the community starts with listening, building relationships, and making sure people have access to the information and resources they need,” said Ines Ruiz-Huston Vice President of Civic Engagement, El Concilio California. “Preparedness is not one size fits all, and our role is to meet people where they are, connect them with trusted resources, and help make sure families feel more confident and prepared when an emergency happens.”

Preparedness does not have to be complicated. The goal is to start, have a plan, and make sure the people around you know what to do when an emergency happens.

About the Office of Emergency Services

Reducing risk, protecting lives, and strengthening communities through partnerships and preparedness. This is our North Star and guides the work we do every day at the San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services (OES). Our work is about more than responding when an emergency happens. We work year-round to protect lives, property and the environment, help our communities prepare for emergencies and disasters, support response and recovery efforts, and reduce risk before the next incident occurs.

OES Website: www.sjready.org

Facebook: [@sjcoes](https://www.facebook.com/sjcoes)

Instagram: [@sjc_oes](https://www.instagram.com/sjc_oes)

X: [@SJC_OES](https://twitter.com/SJC_OES)

Nextdoor: [San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services](https://www.nextdoor.com/neighborhoods/san-joaquin-county-office-of-emergency-services)