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Media Advisory

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Alameda County Social Services Agency Provides Brighter Summer Job Prospects for At-Risk Youth

Oakland -- For the second consecutive year, the Alameda County Social Services Agency (ACSSA) will provide summer and after school employment for eligible at-risk youth residing in Alameda County.

With summer fast approaching, thousands of high school students will be hitting the pavement in search of employment. The ACSSA has made the prospects a lot more promising for 950 eligible **foster care** and **probation** youth ages 15-18 through its Summer and After-School Employment Program. The total investment for the program is \$5,427,300.

Lori A. Cox, Director of the ACSSA, explains, "One of the Agency's 3 major initiatives is Workforce Development. Our summer and after school jobs program is one component of an overall strategy to engage employers and begin forging new partnerships to address job creation throughout the County. A young person's first job and summer employment are rites of passage, and I am committed to making sure these opportunities are available especially for at-risk youth."

The ACSSA will contract with 3 organizations to recruit, train, and place youth in meaningful summer and after school employment. The Oakland Private Industry Council will place 650 youth County-wide. Youth Employment Partnership will serve 100 youth residing in Central Oakland. Youth Uprising will serve 200 youth residing in East Oakland.

With limited employment opportunities in the City of Oakland and other cities throughout the County, the ACSSA Summer and After-School Jobs Program will provide the largest number of employment opportunities for youth this summer. Employers interested in providing employment opportunities this summer for deserving youth at no cost to them may contact one of the participating agencies listed below:

- Youth Uprising at 510-777-9909.
- Youth Employment Partnership at 510-533-3447.
- Oakland Private Industry Council at 510-768-4402.

For general information on the ACSSA Summer and After School Jobs Program contact Sylvia Soublet, Director of Public Affairs and Community Relations for the ACSSA at 510-267-9434 or ssoublet@acgov.org.

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