



And the Oscar Goes To ...



Employees Honored for Excellence and Commitment to EOC

The red carpet was rolled out. Paparazzi swarmed nearby. In the distance, Elvis, Marilyn and a tiny, gold statuette known as "Oscar" patiently waited to take pictures with our very own community action all-stars and award recipients.



On Friday, February 9th, Pardini's Restaurant was transformed into an awards ceremony fit for a movie star. A themed luncheon, *A Day At the Oscars*, recognized over one hundred employees for their dedication and commitment to the Agency.



Soft background music, colored balloons – silver, red, and black – and stylish decorations greeted guests as they entered the main dining hall. Special ushers were standing by ready to escort guests to their seats.

The 6th Annual Recognition Luncheon was well underway. The memorable event began with a gratitude-filled welcome from Board Chairperson Moses Stites and a spiritual invocation lead by Commissioner Reverend Swillis.



After a delicious meal, Associate Executive Director and Mistress of Ceremonies Dawn Cagle announced each honored guests and invited them to the stage. Cheers and applause filled the room as, one by one, our awardees made their way up front. Executive Director Roger Palomino and Board Commissioner George Finley presented each recipient with a certificate recognizing them as a Community Action All Star or beneficiary of a Service Award, Perfect Attendance Award or Exemplary Attendance Award.



The afternoon concluded with a stunning performance by The Diversities, the Agency's choir, and their special rendition of "We Are Family".



Please join us in saluting the 2006 stars.

And, the Oscar goes to ...

COMMUNITY ACTION ALL STARS



SUSAN BROWN-HULLON

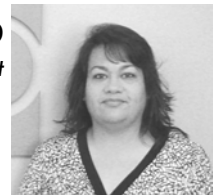
Employment Readiness Specialist, E&T

Susan Brown-Hullon began her employment with FCEOC in 1999 with the Local Conservation Corps. During her tenure with the agency, Susan also worked in the Fresno Neighborhood Jobs Network program, and is now an Employment Readiness Specialist under the Workforce Connection Program. Throughout her career with FCEOC, Susan has demonstrated a personal commitment to improving the lives of each individual that she serves.

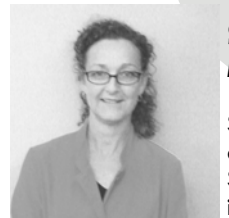
Susan is relentless in keeping her assigned customers grounded, optimistic and active in their pursuit of gainful employment. Susan goes above and beyond the call of duty. In addition to her position with Workforce Connection, Susan has become extremely active with the Sanctuary's SOS program, serving as a dedicated volunteer and mentor. Because of her wholehearted commitment to these youth, Susan has also involved her family in activities with the SOS program. As a member of the FCEOC family, Susan truly "Helps People and Saves Lives."

MARISELA CARRILLO

Special Education Liaison, Head Start



Marisela Carrillo has worked as a Special Education Liaison for Head Start since January 1995, and before that worked as a Home Base Supervisor. She does an outstanding job assisting the Special Education Coordinator in the organization and operation of the Special Ed department. Marisela also volunteers to assist in the preparation of County Wide Trainings for 600 staff! She is so dedicated that she assists in answering the phone in the main office, as well as a participant in Team 21. She's very dedicated and committed in what ever she's taking part in. And as always, she has a shining smile!



STACY HANNEL

Family Development Specialist, Early Head Start

Since becoming employed with FCEOC Early Head Start in June 2001, Ms. Hannel has demonstrated outstanding talents in developing partnerships with families and the community. She has a reputation for being a compassionate home visitor, as well as being knowledgeable in various areas of expertise such as, Family Services, Early Childhood Development, Early Literacy, and with working with children with special needs.

In addition, Stacy is passionate about her work with Early Head Start families. She takes pride in offering families quality infant/toddler services. She is skilled in pointing out the good in all families, and being a resource for her peers. Stacy's combination of case management/leadership skills comes "packaged" in a wonderfully friendly, witty, sincere and caring human being. She is sensitive, respected, and admired by her Early Head Start families and co-workers.

SAM HAIRSTON

Career Workshop Facilitator, SOUL



Sam Hairston has been employed with Fresno County EOC since 1988. Sam began his career with EOC working with at-risk youth in the employment and training programs as a Job Specialist and Facilitator. Because of Sam's extensive experience and commitment to youth, Sam transitioned to SOUL, the agency charter school, in 2001 as a Career Workshop Facilitator.

Sam possesses a special gift for working with at-risk adolescents. He has a unique way of combining career counseling activities with motivational strategies that inspire in all students a profound desire to succeed. Sam works closely with all SOUL staff in his ceaseless efforts to build a more effective program for SOUL students. He works tirelessly to develop and maintain key community contacts that provide SOUL students access to a diverse network of resources in the areas of career exploration, as well as post-secondary education and vocational training opportunities. In addition to his full-time efforts to provide quality career counseling services to SOUL students, Sam always finds time in his busy schedule to assist with a variety of extra-curricular activities, including the SOUL sports program and a number of academic and career-oriented field trips. In summary, Sam Hairston is a true leader at the School of Unlimited Learning. He is loved by all staff, students, parents, and members of the community.

“Always do more than is required of you.”
- George S. Patton ”



PATRICK JAMESON

School Bus Driver, Transit Systems

Patrick Jameson has been employed with Fresno County EOC for five and half years. He was hired as a School Bus Driver for Transit Systems on May 11, 2001.

While temporarily assigned to the Summer Food Service Program this past summer, Transit Systems Driver, Patrick Jameson noticed smoke coming from the back side of a house while on route in Mendota. Further assessment revealed that the field in back of a house and the fence adjacent to the house was on fire. Mr. Jameson immediately called 911 and the fire department arrived shortly after. In the meantime, he went to the door to alert the two senior residents and escorted them safely out to the road, then used a garden hose to help hold back the flames.

The fire department eventually put the fire out and said the house would have surely caught on fire had it not been for the quick action of our driver. The residents gave Mr. Jameson a big hug and thanked him for all he had done. In true EOC spirit Mr. Jameson is a testimony to our mission, "People Helping People" and is deserving to be called a "Community Action All Star."

CAROLYN MALSURY-FOUST

Nutrition Assistant, WIC



Carolyn Malsbury-Foust was hired at WIC on April 8, 1997. She began her career with EOC as a Nutrition Aid. In June 2001, Carolyn was promoted to Nutrition Assistant Certified after completing all the state certification requirements.

Carolyn always makes clients' services a priority. She ably juggles counseling clients and teaching classes. Her work is turned in promptly and a low error rate is maintained. She tracks our hearing impaired clients and services them regardless of type of appointment or which clinic they are scheduled in. She shares with supervisors and staff new information from articles that she reads from newspapers, journals and magazines. Clients give positive feedback regarding the help they have received from Carolyn, both from individual counseling and from the group classes she teaches.



GLORIA MARSHALL

Senior Field Representative, LIHEAP

Gloria Marshall has had a career with FCEOC for 39 years. Gloria has successfully held several positions with FCEOC, moving up the organization with increasing responsibilities. In 1968, Gloria Marshall was a 22 year-old single parent raising a 2-year old son, on welfare, and looking for a job. She was living in a Housing Authorities apartment in the Westside of Fresno and was tired of working in the fields for minimum wage picking grapes. Gloria was pleased to find an administrative job at the North Avenue Community Center as a receptionist in 1968. The job allowed her the flexibility to go to Fresno City College and earn enough money to raise her family. Gloria then moved to the Ivy Center as a receptionist and was an Interim Director for four months in 1974. Gloria's office moved to the Rowell Building in 1973 and she held a position as a secretary with the Planning and Evaluations Department and later a central file clerk position. In 1990, Gloria moved to the Executive Office in the General Services Department as a General Services Assistant processing incoming and outgoing mail and overseeing the microfiche files and copy center for the Agency. In 2000, Gloria joined FCEOC's Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) as a Senior Field Representative. LIHEAP serves over 9,000 low-income Fresno County residents with energy assistance. Gloria oversees the Fast-Track 48-hour Notice/Shut Off unit of LIHEAP and processes over 3,500 energy assistance applications, ensuring low-income qualified residents do not go without energy in their homes. Gloria stated why she has made FCEOC a career, "I like helping people. I like doing what I can for them." Gloria's commitment and dedication have been evident throughout her career with FCEOC. Her experience, commitment and dedication ensure that customers receive quality services, in their time of great need. Her versatility and commitment truly have earned Gloria the right to be named one of FCEOC's "Community Action All Stars."

VINCENT PATLAN

Grounds Maintenance Manager, LCC



Vincent Patlan, Grounds Maintenance Manager with EOC's Local Conservation Corps (LCC), got an early start in his career when his grandfather helped him get a job weeding cotton and tomatoes in Firebaugh, at the age of 15. A graduate of Firebaugh High School, Vincent enjoyed wrestling and body building as a student. He continued to work in agriculture following graduation, gaining a variety of experience including the operation of mechanical irrigation systems, and processing fruits and vegetables in packing and dehydration plants. Prior to joining the LCC team, Vincent was employed by Jensen and Watts, Inc., in landscape equipment sales, parts, and service, becoming proficient in all aspects of the grounds maintenance industry. His experience, work ethic, expertise, and interest in helping our corpsmembers soon became evident when Vincent was hired by the LCC as a crew supervisor. As the LCC's landscape maintenance portfolio grew, Vincent was asked to manage the entire City of Fresno Community Facilities District (CFD) maintenance program in NE and NW Fresno, directing the work of eight corpsmember crews (40 personnel). Vincent's steady, positive attitude and quiet energy is clearly reflected in the outstanding production and quality training corpsmembers generate each day.



RUTH PEREZ

Teacher Assistant, Head Start

Ruth Perez, Teacher Assistant at our Funston Head Start Preschool Center has worked with the Agency since 2001. Ms. Perez works well on teams and is respected by all her co-workers. Her commitment to the program is extraordinary. She often goes the extra distance to meet the needs of her client children and families. Her dedication and synergy with other staff makes her the supervisor's first choice when assistance is needed at other centers. Her flexibility and readiness to share her talents makes her an easy choice for Community Action All Star. Thank you for being a part of EOC's Head Start team and congratulations!

“ Diversity makes for a rich tapestry.
We must understand that all the threads of the tapestry
are equal in value, no matter their color; equal in
importance no matter their texture. ”
- Maya Angelou

JULIA REYES

Lead Case Manager, AFLP



Julia Reyes has more than a decade of experience with FCEOC, and is currently the Lead Case Manager for the Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP). She also holds a certificate as a facilitator in the March of Dimes Comenzando Bien prenatal group program. As the Lead Case Manager, Julia uses her years of experience and knowledge to assist the AFLP team in providing the highest quality of care possible to pregnant and parenting teens in Fresno County.

Julia maintains strong, helping relationships with her clients and enjoys talking, teaching and assisting them as they strive to adjust to the often challenging circumstances of being a teen parent. Julia is highly committed to working in rural communities and understands the unique needs of the youth in rural areas throughout Fresno County. Because of her dedication, Julia has established a positive rapport and reputation with staff, community agencies, and clients, and displays a genuine and sincere concern for the youth that she serves.

SERVICE AWARDS

35
YEARS

Sarah Chavira, Head Start
Hope Duran, Head Start
Wyoma Lewis, Head Start
Victor Lopez, Orange Cove Community Services
Manuel Ramirez, Head Start
Rosa Rosas, Head Start

25
YEARS

Wilma Austin, WIC
Diane Blickenstaff, Head Start
Corrinne Callahan, Head Start
Sylvia Chavez, Transit
Adriana Gomez, Head Start
Gary Killingsworth, Transit
Rosemarie Redondo, Head Start
Jean Whittle, WIC

30
YEARS

Catheryn Esquivel, Head Start
Vera Gonzales, Head Start
Andrew Hernandez, Head Start
Helen Jackson, Head Start
Frances Mora, Head Start

20
YEARS

Juana Barajas, Head Start
Mary Caudillo, Food Services
Rosalind Esqueda, Transit
Diane Gauss-Alvarado, Head Start
See Lee, WIC
Raquel Resendiz, Head Start
Angelita Rodriguez, Head Start
Rachel Ruiz, Head Start
Dave Taylor, Food Services

15
YEARS

Margarita Aguila, Head Start
Felicia Amescua, Head Start
Phyllis Barlow, Head Start
Delia Canel, Head Start
Julie Carrera, Head Start
Julie Casillas, WIC
Joe Castaneda, Food Services
Esther Crawford, Head Start
Melynda Cutts, Head Start
Anna Davila, Head Start
Gloria Diaz, Head Start
Brenda Easter, Head Start
Nancy Garcia, Head Start
Catherine Guild, Head Start
Carolyn Moreno, Executive Office
Marina Perez, Head Start
Rosa Pineda, Head Start
Debra Rix, Head Start
Leticia Rodriguez, Finance
Maxine Rodriguez, Head Start
Ana Silva, Head Start
Brandy Tarquino, Employment & Training
Guadalupe Ureno, Head Start
Richard Vang, Food Services
Marilyn Wallace, Head Start

10
YEARS

Elida Aguilar, Head Start
Jesus Alvarez, Food Services
Cruz Baiza, WIC
Maria Borbon, Head Start
Tammy Brummett, Head Start
MaryAnn Calamba, Head Start
Catrina Carrillo, Early Head Start
Elvenia De La Cruz, Transit
Mandy Finkiewicz, Head Start
Angelita Gonzalez, Head Start
Jill Greenberg, Employment & Training
William Gutierrez, LCC
Venecia Harris-Ramirez, Head Start
Jeffery Haynes, LCC
Bau Her, Head Start
Consuelo Hernandez, Head Start
Velicia Jackson, Transit
Souphaphone Keophithoun-Khamvongsa, LIHEAP
Lorena Mancha, Transit
Gaylain Marshall, Head Start
George Martinez, Transit
Sylvia McElhanez, Head Start
Jimmie Milton, Transit
Maria Mulligan, Head Start

Caprice Murray, Head Start
Melinda Olivares, Head Start
Henry Pacheco, Head Start
Susan Patlan, Head Start
Outhay Phommahasay, Head Start
Florine Porter, Employment & Training
Diane Preston, Head Start
Andrea Rojas, Transit
Esperanza Saenz, Head Start
Alicia Solano, WIC
Annette Thornton, WIC
Elizabeth Turner, Head Start
Michelle Tutunjian, LCC
Irma Valencia, WIC
Hlee Vang, Head Start
Ker Vang, Head Start
Mai Vang, Head Start
May Vang, Early Head Start
Tong Vang, Early Head Start
Clementina Vega, Head Start
Douglas Walthour, IT
Steven Warnes, Finance
Malia Xiong, WIC
Pamela Young, Head Start

“There is no higher religion than human service. To work for the common good is the greatest creed.

- Woodrow T. Wilson

5 YEARS

Josie Aguilar, Sanctuary
Rito Alcoser, Transit
Nancy Altamirano, Transit
Sylvia Alvarado, Head Start
Anthony Alvarez, Employment and Training
Felicia Anderson, Head Start
Luis Baca, SOUL
Gabriela Betancourt, WIC
Dolores Camarena, WIC
Alicia Casarez, Head Start
Hilda Castaneda, Head Start
Orquidia Ceja, Head Start
Lugena Crouch, Food Services
Dalia Cuevas, Head Start
Jessica Denn, Head Start
Guadalupe Dickerson, Head Start
Gloria Espindola, Head Start
Candelaria Flores, Tobacco Prevention

Michael Garcia, Human Resources
Indervir Gill, SACC
Alice Gomez, Head Start
Steve Gorthy, SOUL
Tanzania Grace, WIC
Lamonica Hall, Head Start
Stacy Hannel, Early Head Start
Monica Ibarra, WIC
Patrick Jameson, Transit
Felicia Jimenez, Head Start
Dominic Johnson, Teen Connection
Phyllis Kepford, Food Services
Braulio Ledesma, Transit
Som Lo, Transit
Diana Lopez, Head Start
Moua Lor, Head Start
Rita Macias, Head Start
Calvin Malsbury, Transit
Leticia Mendoza, Head Start
Patricia Morton, Head Start
Pang Moua, WIC
Nushik Movsisyan, SACC
Kiana Neal, Head Start

Isaias Nolasco, TLC
Guadalupe Nunez, Food Services
Elda Perez, Head Start
Ruth Perez, Head Start
Cynthia Pierzina, Head Start
Sukhvinder Purewal, Head Start
Vincent Rangel, Food Services
Shawn Riggins, LCC
Jennifer Robinson, Head Start
Julia Rodriguez, Food Services
Kara Rodriguez, Finance
Dora Salas-Mireles, Head Start
Kamal Singh, Sanctuary
Regina Solis, SACC
Brenda Sorondo, Transit
Gregory Streets, IT
Christina Tate, TLC
Cynthia Taylor, Head Start
Theng Thao, Transit
Xee Thao, Head Start
Saul Trevino, Transit
Alma Valladares, Head Start
Bertha Velez, SACC
Shirley Wayne, Finance
Mao Xiong, Head Start
Neng Yang, Transit
LeAnn Zaragosa, Head Start
Maria Zarate, Head Start

"The thing that lies at the foundation of positive change, the way I see it, is service to a fellow human being."
- Lee Iacocca

ATTENDANCE AWARDS

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Anthony Greco, Transit
Martha Jimenez, SACC
George Martinez, Transit
Frances Mora, Head Start

Ernan Rodriguez, Transit
Jose Silva, Food Services
Kamal Singh, Sanctuary

Jeff Sotelo, Human Resources
Theng Thao, Transit
Kao Vang, Food Services

EXEMPLARY ATTENDANCE

Sylvia Ackel, Head Start
Anthony Alvarez, Employment & Training
Maria Guadalupe Alvarez, Head Start
Rita Bustamante, Head Start
Beatrice Chavez, Head Start
Dalia Cuevas, Head Start
Juanita Dibble, SACC
Brenda Easter, Head Start
Maria E. Garcia, Head Start

Lazaro Ledesma, Transit
James Lee, Transit
James Lowe, Transit
Calvin Malsbury, Transit
Lorena Mancha, Transit
Richard Molina, Transit
Michelle Morse, Human Resources
Kizito Okoroanyanwu, Transit
Clarence Pennywell, Transit
Francisco Rodriguez, Transit
Maxine Rodriguez, Head Start

Anna Saetern, Head Start
Darlene Sanchez, Head Start
Marie Sani, Head Start
Gloria Valles, Transit
Phong Vang, Transit
Pa Vue, Transit
Juan Vara, Transit
Brenda Wilson, Transit
Neng Yang, Transit
Kou Yang, Transit