

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

January 18, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Robert Herman
Public Information Officer
559/733-6606
cell: 559/733-6606

Tulare County Office of Education Announces:

Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Program Seeks Volunteers

An Informational Meeting Will Be Held Thursday, January 24 in Visalia

The Child Abuse & Neglect (C.A.N.) Prevention Program, which is operated by the Tulare County Office of Education's School Health Programs, is seeking volunteers. C.A.N. is a preventive program designed to help reduce the incidence of neglect, as well as physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. Volunteers are needed to make presentations to first and fifth-grade students at Tulare County schools, both public and private. "We are currently seeking individuals committed to bettering the lives of children for this long-running and successful program," says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak.

C.A.N. volunteers work together in pairs in each classroom. They speak from a prepared script in order to ensure that all of the information is covered. The presentations are non-threatening and age-appropriate. Volunteers receive a total of 14 hours of training on two separate days.

The next training classes are scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, and Friday, February 10, 2006.

Volunteers serve two to four hours per month.

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Prior to the training, interested individuals are invited to attend an informational meeting from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 24, 2006, at 7000 Doe Ave., Building 300 in Visalia.

For more information please contact Gillian Gonzalez, C.A.N. Coordinator at (559) 651-0130

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