

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release

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Tulare County Office of Education Announces: Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Program Seeks Volunteers

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 of children. Volunteers are needed to make presentations to first and fifth-grade students at Tulare County schools, both public and private. With the addition of a parent education component this school year also requires the recruitment of new volunteers. "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 October 18, and October 20, 2006. Volunteers can serve two to twenty hours per month.

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To register for the C.A.N. training, contact Gillian Gonzalez, C.A.N. Project Coordinator at (559) 651-0130. For more information about Tulare County Office of Education programs, please contact Robert Herman at (559) 733-6606.

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