

Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission

MEDIA ADVISORY

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EOC's Charter School Celebrates Annual Commencement Ceremony

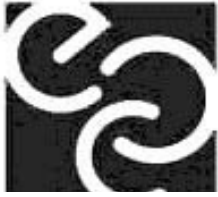
(Fresno, CA) – They dreamed big and worked hard. Thirty-three (33) students from Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission's (EOC) School of Unlimited Learning – the Agency's charter high school – will celebrate their accomplishments during the school's graduation ceremony Thursday, June 11, 2009, at Old Wilson Theater (Cornerstone Church) located at 1445 Fulton Street in downtown Fresno. The festivities begin at 12:30 p.m.

"The road hasn't been easy for many of our students," says Dr. Mark Wilson, School of Unlimited Learning's (SOUL) Principal. "Their young lives have been filled with adversities that many of us, as adults, haven't even encountered. But here they are ... they've faced those hardships, overcame them, realized their potential, and are now ready to step into the "real world" with confidence in their abilities. I am extremely proud of each and every one of our graduates!"

SOUL senior Amanda Reyes is one of those students who overcame adversities and realized her potential. The 18-year-old, a teen parent, was recently awarded Planned Parenthood Mar Monte's Morgan Scholarship for the 2009-2010 academic year. Amanda, who completed her spring semester with a 4.0 GPA, is attending Fresno City College and will study Child Development.

EOC's School of Unlimited Learning is a public charter school that utilizes a unique and innovative approach to education, targeting high-risk students in 9th through 12th grade. Unlike traditional high schools, students at SOUL are provided with many individualized services, such as case management; tutoring; one-on-one career, academic, and personal counseling; and childcare services. The school offers a classroom-based and independent study program that serves more than 300 students each year. All students in the classroom-based program are provided free breakfast and lunch via EOC's Food Services, as well as bus tokens to facilitate their transportation to and from school.

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About Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission (EOC)

For over 40 years, Fresno County EOC – a private, nonprofit agency – has helped low-income Fresno County residents become self-sufficient. EOC offers over 30 comprehensive community-based programs that develop an individual's capabilities and places them on the path toward independence.

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